

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



Monthly, 3 Cents.

One Year, 25 Cents.

# A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 2.

BOSTON, MASS., JAN. 15, 1899.

NO. 7.

## Your Subscription Ended

for this paper, possibly with the last issue of A FEW HENS. If so, and you renew, you will get fifty per cent. more matter the coming year, as the paper will contain twelve pages instead of eight. The price will remain the same, 25 cents, as before. Kindly favor us at once with your renewal, sending 25 cents for same, in cash or postage stamps.

**TAKE NOTICE.** If you send us 40 cents, and one new subscriber, we will send the paper a full year to both for that amount. Send us 60 cents, and two new names, and we will renew your subscription; or send 60 cents, and we will enter your name alone for three years.

Either of the above offers we believe give more real practical value for the money than can be gotten anywhere else.

Send all money and subscriber's address, name, post office and state, (plainly written), in full to

A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL HINTS.

1899.

Start a club.

Resolutions?

Start a diary.

Adopt a system.

Aim to improve.

Happy New Year!

Adopt wise economy.

Conditions judge men.

Enjoy your possessions.

Age don't improve hens.

There is no "best" breed.

Crossbreds are half-breeds.

Begin the New Year aright.

A worrisome hen is a loser.

Take comfort in your stock.

Give us the names of friends.

A kind rooster is a good mate.

We are gaining on the leaders.

Systematic work makes profit.

Do you keep a flock of drones?

Hens have natures of their own.

The common hen is cheap labor.

Wish you health and prosperity.

Begin small and grow gradually.

There's music in the singing hen.

Has the holiday trade been good?

Let your aim be for better poultry.

The flock should be thoroughbred.

Don't over-estimate your capacity.

Are you working "mechanically?"

Have you "chronic forgetfulness?"

Personally manage your own plant.

Economize labor in a judicious way.

Carelessness with poultry is a crime.

Our readers' good is A FEW HENS' rule.

Common-sense methods are always best.

Comfortable houses makes contented hens.

## Experimental Farm Notes.

*Eleven Months' Report of the Receipts and Expenses on the Farm—A New Bill of Fare—The Editor Caught in a Blizzard—Utilizing the 2x2 Coops for Resting Pens—Double Yards for Our Breeding Pens—Much Noise Made the Leghorns Shut Down in Egg Production—An Egg Cabinet.*

Another year's work on the Experimental Farm has ended, and the accounts are about made up. At this writing (December 16) we are unable to give the full year's record, but instead we submit what we have done for the eleven months of the year, reserving the completion of our report for the next issue. Our poor success with ducks, as previously mentioned, kept down the amount of our profits, but on the other hand, our hens did noble work.

January 1, 1898, we had 11 White Wyandotte pullets, 30 Single Comb White Leghorn pullets, 35 Light Brahma pullets. Besides there were 13 common hens, two years old, left over from the lot we purchased last year for setting hens. We killed the last common hen in August, and since then have only strictly thoroughbreds on our farm.

We also had, the first of the year, 55 ducks and 10 drakes (of which 6 ducks were Aylesbury, and the remainder were of the Pekin variety). We might here note that we found the Aylesbury excellent layers, but not any better than the Pekin. They do not, in any way that we can see, present as attractive carcasses as our American-bred Pekin, and will never crowd out our choice.

The following tables show the work, per month, of the different breeds. The item "poultry" means the sale of roasting fowls, broilers and breeding stock:—

## WYANDOTTES.

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGGS.
January.....	\$7.28	\$3.10
February.....	7.10	3.16
March.....	10.00	13.25
April.....	.51	9.46
May.....	4.05	3.63
June.....	6.50	1.00
July.....	4.45	1.01
August.....	7.62	.91
September.....	6.56	.59

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGGS.
October.....	44.17	.62
November.....	27.97	1.40
Total.....	\$126.21	\$38.13

## LEGHORNS.

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGGS.
January.....	\$7.28	\$4.50
February.....	3.55	7.97
March.....	4.00	32.38
April.....	....	23.97
May.....	....	11.26
June.....	....	....
July.....	1.05	1.80
August.....	1.06	1.62
September.....	12.28	.68
October.....	25.59	2.30
November.....	13.98	1.76
Total.....	\$68.79	\$88.24

## BRAHMAS.

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGGS.
January.....	\$13.28	\$1.78
February.....	11.60	3.92
March.....	6.00	9.86
April.....	1.00	6.84
May.....	1.00	3.38
June.....	5.50	....
July.....	.50	1.57
August.....	4.17	.36
September.....	18.01	.66
October.....	34.67	.12
November.....	19.47	.10
Total.....	\$115.20	\$28.59

## COMMON HENS.

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGGS.
January.....	\$1.50	\$1.46
February.....	3.55	2.30
March.....	1.85	2.04
April.....	2.00	3.77
May.....	4.50	7.84
June.....	3.58	1.26
July.....	2.40	.75
August.....	1.06	.45
Total.....	\$20.50	\$11.82

## DUCKS.

MONTH.	POULTRY.	EGG
January.....	\$....	\$1.
February.....	1.50	9.3.
March.....	....	19.01
April.....	....	17.14
May.....	13.75	8.71
June.....	5.00	3.43
July.....	21.00	.22
August.....	4.75	....
September.....	6.50	....
Total.....	\$52.50	\$59.29

It will be noticed in the above table, that in the sale of broilers, roasters and



breeders, the Wyandottes led in returns, with the Brahmas a close second, Leghorns next, ducks next, and common hens last. In eggs, Leghorns led, ducks next, Wyandottes next, Brahmas next, common hens last.

In point of income, the Wyandottes averaged \$14.94 per head; Leghorns, a fraction less than \$5.23 per head; Brahmas, a fraction over \$4.10 per head; common, a fraction less than \$2.49 per head; ducks, a fraction over \$2.03 per head. Understand, this is not a profit—only what they actually brought to us. The full table, as well as the actual profit, will be given next month.

During 1899 we will have a larger number of both Brahmas and Wyandottes, but only the same number of Leghorns. The common crop has become entirely extinct, and the duck family has been cut down to two pens of 5 ducks and 1 drake each. We intend each year to increase our stock in those breeds which give us the best returns.

\*\*\*

We have received some very flattering testimonials for the bill of fare presented in our November issue. Many of our readers, who have tried it, pronounce it ideal. But some write: "We cannot buy barley here," "the bowels of our fowls seem unusually loose since we adopted your system," and "Can you give us a bill of fare that will be simpler, and at the same time equally effective."

We believe the following bill of fare will be found a well balanced ration, which will give good results, and not be so apt to produce looseness of the bowels:

Cooked cut clover hay, or Pioneer Clover Meal, 4 parts; cornmeal, 1 part; middlings or ground oats, or both, 1 part; bran, 1 part; linseed meal, 25 per cent.; Bowker's Animal Meal, or meat scraps, 10 per cent. Every Monday and Thursday, add a tablespoonful of powdered or granulated charcoal to a quart of mixed feed; and every Sunday, a teaspoonful of Sheridan's Condition Powder for every 15 fowls. Feed this mash every morning.

Noon: (Excepting Wednesday and Saturday), feed scalded whole oats, scattered among litter. At noon on Wednesday and Saturday feed green cut bone, allowing about an ounce per hen.

Night: Two parts whole wheat to one part whole corn.

For summer feeding some changes would have to be made in the above.

After the fowls are on the roost at night, scatter a few handfuls of wheat among the scratching litter in the house, so that they will get down to exercising the first thing in the morning. This will not only partially satisfy their hunger, but it will give them a better chance to appreciate and digest their morning mash.

An hour after feeding the mash, give them water to drink, but add enough hot water to take off the chill.

\*\*\*

We had a little surprise on the farm last November. As a rule, the winters in southern New Jersey are very mild, much like those of parts of Virginia, where we formerly lived. Snow very

seldom lies longer than two days at a time, and the entire product some winters, if all put together, would only make decent sleighing for a week. But, on the 26th of last November, towards evening, the North winds began blowing, and this was followed by gales of snow; it fell fast and thick. The next day, the 27th, was Sunday, and as on that day the young man who has charge of our farm does not come to work, the duties of the day fell upon our shoulders.

In the morning when we arose we found everything completely covered. The drifts in places measured four feet, especially in our main walks. The weather up to the 26th had been so mild we did not worry about the cockerels confined in our 2x2 foot houses with wire runs. So this morning we found all our small coops completely covered, and the snow had drifted in many of the 4x4 foot houses with their wire netting windows. Here meant work.

First we began shoveling paths, but many of these soon drifted shut, as the storm seemed to be still at its height. Still we managed to keep down the worst, and we unearthed the 2x2 foot houses. We found the birds in these all in good condition, the snow having kept them warm. Then we opened up the 4x4 houses, and found these fowls none the worse for their experience. In our regular breeding pens there was no trouble. To make a long story short, we were busy that whole day shoveling snow, feeding, and doing other necessary work. We carted every 2x2 foot house on a wheelbarrow to our large feed room, and after closing up again for the night we felt that we performed the hardest day's work we had done for years.

\*\*\*

We now have a rack made on the inside of our feed room, and we keep our 2x2 foot coops on that, taking them out doors only during nice weather. These will be utilized during the winter for exchange breeding roosters, and for broody hens that we do not want to set.

That inspiration reached us through the storm! You know we can catch a lesson from every mishap.

\*\*\*

A load of cedar posts are now in the ground, which will be used shortly in making double yards for our breeding pens. In the front of the scratching pens we have a run 16x50 feet, and now we want to put the same sized run on the back, and have an outlet to these back runs through scratching sheds. This will be better than an entire run of 100 feet, as it will give us a chance to keep green grass or some other green crop growing in the one while the other yard is used. We began our runs by having two feet of boards and then three feet of wire on top for fencing. We shall now use nothing but wire, and in order to prevent fighting through the fence, we shall never run two flocks in adjoining yards. Following is our idea:

A	House.	D
B		E
C		F

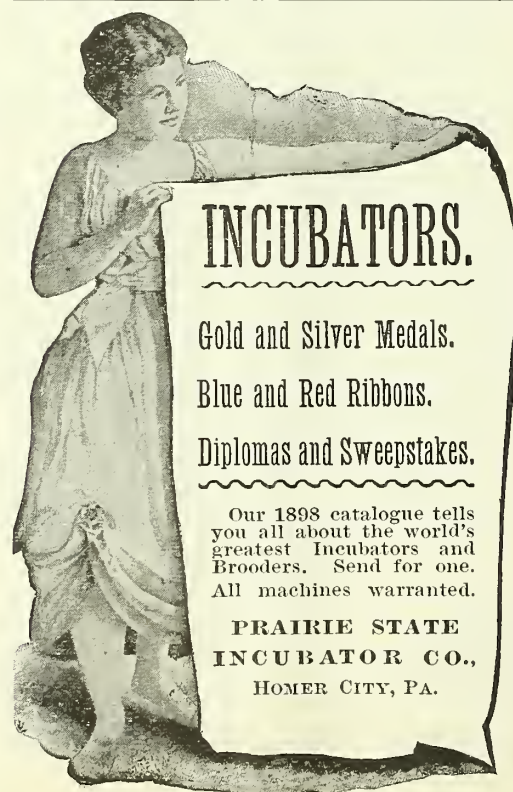
When the fowls are in Yard A and C, Yard E is occupied, and Yards B, D and F are sown to some green crop. When Yard B is occupied, the flocks formerly in A and C are turned into D and F, and Yards A, C and E are sown. This plan we find, after looking over our limited territory over, will give us the best results, as there will be no chance for the ground becoming tainted, as is often the case in sections where heavy soil abounds, and, besides, it will settle an important question of green food during the summer, as our fowls cannot have a range.

\*\*\*

When we built the addition to our scratching shed, as mentioned in our October number, a circumstance happened that many might think only a theory. This new pen adjoined the pen occupied by our Leghorns, and up to the time we began building they were doing some fine laying. In putting up the frame work of the new house, we were compelled to do considerable pounding, and almost immediately our Leghorns shut off laying. For thirteen days they did not lay an egg, and then on the fourteenth day they laid one, and have not increased it further than that at this writing. It was certainly very plain that the fright occasioned by this pounding, and which was necessarily kept up for a week, did it. Quiet being now restored, we look for them to go back to their old record.

\*\*\*

Ever since A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm was started, we have been studying what would be a good plan to keep eggs for hatching so that they might be easily turned, and, at the same time, get the benefit of a proper airing. To keep them in a crate, they do not get the necessary air; and to have them on a shelf, with holes bored in to



**INCUBATORS.**

Gold and Silver Medals.  
Blue and Red Ribbons.  
Diplomas and Sweepstakes.

Our 1898 catalogue tells you all about the world's greatest Incubators and Brooders. Send for one. All machines warranted.

**PRAIRIE STATE  
INCUBATOR CO.,**  
HOMER CITY, PA.



fit the eggs, compels turning by hand. To save up 500 to 1000 eggs for starting incubators, and being compelled to turn them by hand, is too tiresome a job, and, besides, it is not beneficial to eggs to be so frequently handled by hand.

Just while we were in the midst of devising some plan to facilitate our work, we came across an advertisement in an exchange of an egg cabinet, and we sent for circulars. The first sight of it convinced us that it was just what we wanted, and just what our readers wanted, so we concluded to give it a trial. From the manufacturer we secured an electro of the cabinet, which we give herewith:—



The trays are easily removed and carried about, and each tray can be used for a special breed or pen. The entire lot of eggs are turned with one swing of the cabinet. Seven sizes—from 150 to 1050 eggs each are made. We ordered a 910 egg size, and at this writing it is on the way. In a future issue we will more fully explain, giving our views as we find them after a fair trial. We give this extended notice more to answer several inquiries on this subject, besides following our rule to notice everything that is of value to poultry farmers.

The same manufacturers (The 20th Century Manufacturing Co., 211 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo.) also offer a box for shipping eggs for hatching, which is, practically, shipping "eggs on springs." We ordered a sample lot of these, and after due trial will give our opinion.

**Buff Fly. Rocks** exclusively. Surplus stock all sold except one cock (1 yr. old) Buff to skin; weighs 9.3-4 lbs., and has a fine upright comb with five serrations. Will sell him for \$5.00. FORD BROS., Oak Hill, N. Y.

**R. I. REDS.** Prolific layers. Eggs, 26, \$1.50; \$4 pr. 100. St'k in season. E. S. Piper, Camden, Me.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Business stock. Wm. F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J.

**CUT CLOVER** in sacks. \$1.25 for 100 pounds. J. G. QUIRIN, Tioga Center, N. Y.

**AN UNPARALLELED RECORD.** At America's greatest show, New York, '98, also at Boston, this season. At the latter show, on two entries of Turkeys, won two 1sts, and \$10 special for best pr. At New York, on four entries, won four 1sts. Eggs for hatching from this stock, 40c. each. Best strains of Pekin, Aylesbury and Muscovy Ducks, Toulouse and African Geese, Ind. Games, L. Brahmas, B. and W. P. Rocks, Wh. and S. L. Wyand., Wh., Brown and Buff Leghorns, Black Minorcas, White and Pearl Guineas. Write for 32-page catalogue, free. Choice Stock for sale. "Agent for Lee's Lice Killer."

**D. A. MOUNT,**

PINE TREE FARM, JAMESBURG, N. J.

**White and Silver Wyandotte**

**STOCK and EGGS.** Wm. H. Child, Glenside, Pa.

### Eggs and Egg Farming.

*What the Hen Demands for Eggs in Winter—Eggs for British Trade—Yarding Fowls for Egg Production—Cold Hens—Soft-Shelled Eggs—Can't Adulterate the Hen's Product—Other Items of Value.*

For eggs in winter the hen demands:

- Exercise.
- Sunlight.
- New blood.
- Fresh water.
- All food pure.
- Warm houses.
- Grit and shell.
- No excitement.
- Clean quarters.
- Plenty of room.
- Good digestion.
- Early hatching.
- Variety of food.
- Kind treatment.
- Regular feeding.
- Selected matings.
- A contented feeling.
- Proper egg material.
- Freedom from worry.
- Comfortable quarters.
- A warm morning mash.
- Freedom from exposure.

Eggs in winter—there's the profit. Have your pullets been backward? Late moulting hens are poor winter layers.

There isn't the call, according to *Rural New-Yorker*, for white-shelled eggs in market there used to be.

Do not palm off stale eggs on your customers. Aim to get a good reputation and your goods will be in demand—be honest.

Cold storage men claim that brown-shelled eggs, being heavier and thicker, preserve better than white-shelled ones.

Close confinement during fine weather in winter may not materially reduce egg production, but it will weaken fertility and health.

Winter eggs are produced in summer conditions, says *Farm Journal*. This excludes perches on trees and fences, zero blasts through crevices in the wall and paneless windows, cold grain diet, and snow water for drink.

Strictly fresh eggs always bring a good price, even when store eggs are cheap, says *Texas Farm and Ranch*. Farmers who sell eggs should remember this and so arrange their business as to market as the New York Irishman votes: Early and often.

The Eureka nest boxes, or similar inventions, will enable you to not only know which are your best layers, but which hens lay infertile eggs, which are the egg eaters, which lay double yolked eggs, and which lay the most fertile and best shaped ones.

Prof. F. E. Dawley says if the hens roost out in the trees, feed them plenty of corn to keep them warm, and give up expecting eggs until the warm weather comes; but if you have housed them properly and feed them right, remembering that neither fat hens nor cold hens will lay many eggs, you will be rewarded.

The difference between a hen that will lay eight dozen eggs per year, at 25 cents per dozen, and one that will lay 12 dozen at the same price, is one dollar. This is the difference between the scrub and the thoroughbred, reasons the *Michigan Poultry Breeder*, and as the percentage of thoroughbreds owned by American farmers is very small, the amount lost is appalling.

A speaker at a New York Farmers' Institute said: "Yarded fowls are the modern improved egg machines. Fowls let run and given free range cannot produce as great a number of eggs, for the reason that they convert a part of their food into muscle, and thus reduce their capacity for forming the eggs. In my own case I increased my egg yield 18,720 eggs last year by yarding my fowls."

H. W. Collingwood says that we may have lime in our flour, lard in our butter, peanut shells in our coffee, sawdust in our tea, basswood in our hams, and sand in our sugar, but the eggs cannot be successfully counterfeited. Our little friend, the hen, with her marvelous inside fixtures, will still continue at the old stand, putting her humble grist together, and shelling out this most miraculous of animal product—the egg.

The *Baltimore Sun* gives the following cause for soft-shelled eggs: Egg shells are a lime formation, and a lack of lime as a food ingredient is, therefore, one of the main causes. Indigestion is another cause which requires a radical change of diet. Overfat hens are most apt to be troubled with this disorder. Hens that are frightened or worried by dogs, or otherwise, will drop soft-shelled eggs. In most cases the cause will suggest the remedy.

The grade of eggs demanded for the British trade is one that will weigh 1 1-2 pounds to the dozen, and for every half pound of eggs that weigh less than 15 pounds to the dozen, the value is lessened by about one cent per dozen. Those engaged in the import trade believe that in large eggs the albumen is thicker than in small ones, and that about 90 per cent. of the stale or bad eggs are small eggs with white shells. Shells of a brown color are preferred, and must be clean without having been cleaned.

The hen pays for all the work bestowed on her. Eggs are saleable at all times, and at good prices, says *Poultry Keeper*. Wheat, corn, and other foods will pay more at this season, if converted into eggs, than into any other product, and the farmer does not have to wait for the cash for his work, for the hen returns him his outlay every day, or nearly so. In those sections where no work can be done in winter, the hens can be made to give daily returns of cash, in the shape of eggs, when all other operations are at a standstill.

S. C. Brown Leghorns, choice Cockerels and Pullets. Eggs in season. ZUNDEL BROS., Grapeville, Pa.

**CHOICE B. P. ROCK** strong, vigorous cockerels from a heavy laying strain. Pedigree Coburn Hunter, making a fine bird with paying qualities. Am offering them at low price of \$2 and \$3 each. Eggs in season. E. W. HARRIS, No. Acton, Mass.



### About Broilers and Roasters.

*English Methods of Preparing Poultry for Market—French Methods for Having Attractive Looking Carcasses—Brahma vs. Leghorn—Qualities of a Good Table Fowl—Utility Wants Thoroughbreds—The Indian Game as a Market Fowl—The Leghorn as a Broiler—Packing Poultry for Shipment.*

Now for broilers.  
Hog-fat is not desirable.  
Markets call for *prime* stock.  
Get out your market poultry.  
Close-grained meat is preferred.  
Exclusive broiler farms are risky.  
The flesh of the Houdan is tender.  
Study our market reports for prices.  
Now is a good time to hatch roasters.  
Ranging fowls are more or less tough.  
Have regular market or delivery days.  
Attractive goods advertise themselves.  
Dead or alive, market the sexes separately.  
Don't spoil your reputation by poor stock.  
Market as soon as the desired weight is gained.  
The Houdan is the market breed of France.  
The poultry market demand is on the increase.  
Well-kept poultry yards bring neighboring custom.  
Indian Game and Houdan is a good roaster cross.  
Broilers, roasters and eggs make a strong combination.  
Overfed poultry cannot be put into the proper market condition.  
January and February are months in which to hatch profitable broilers.  
Cornmeal will give a golden color, and buckwheat a white color to the skin.  
Putting up poultry in neat packages is the best way to create the best retail trade.  
Prof. Samuel Cushman says the White Wyandotte cannot be beaten for general purposes.

The December 10th issue of *American Agriculturist* gives a good illustration of an exhibit of French dressed poultry.

If your market calls for a certain thing, you must furnish it, says Prof. Cushman, if you would have a profitable business.

It is the feed and not the breed which makes the table fowl *par excellence*, says W. Theo. Wittman, in *American Poultry Advocate*.

The British consumer sticks loyally to his demand for home grown poultry, and the result is that thousands of French, Italian, Canadian and American fowls are regularly palmed off as English stock.

A Brahma is always sharp breasted unless it is hog-fat, while a Leghorn may be comparatively poor and yet have a plump breast, says *Farmers' Voice*. The difference is caused by the habits of the two breeds.

Edward Brown, a leading English authority on poultry matters, says that fowls should be killed off after they have completed their second year, and for this purpose birds should be marked so as to be easily distinguished.

The Leghorn is not a desirable broiler breed owing to the difficulty in getting it into a plump condition at a profitable age. It requires fully four weeks longer to get it to the desired weight than it does our American breeds—but when it is there it is a fine breasted and attractive looking carcass.

"He who undertakes to raise poultry for market by buying all their feed will have less money, but more experience, at the end than at the beginning of the first of the year," says the poultry editor of *Texas Farm and Ranch*. We would suggest that the worthy editor come north on a visit and inspect the large market farms where all the feed has to be bought.

The chief peculiarities of the English method of dressing poultry are: Killing by wringing the neck, not by chopping or sticking; feathers are left on the neck for a few inches from the head, also a few feathers on tail and tips of wings; the breast bone is some times broken down by pressing it to one side with the thumbs, and the wings are twisted to the back of the bird.

The French method of preparing poultry for market is acknowledged, in some respects, superior to others. The birds are made very fat and plump, and are manipulated to increase plumpness. A few feathers are left on tail and neck. The skin is white and delicate. Each carcass is tied with a ribbon, and is shown back uppermost instead of breast up, according to American and English usage.

The breast and thighs must be heavy in a good table fowl, in proportion to the rest of the body. In order to have thick breast meat and big thighs, these muscles must be used by the fowl, is the way *Farmers' Voice* reasons. In other words, the flyer and scratcher will prove to be the best

table fowl, for their lively habits give the muscles of the legs and breast work to do that renders them firm and fine, instead of leaving them flabby and full of loose tissue in the shape of fat.

Referring to the Indian Game as a market fowl, W. S. Templeton, in *Poultry Tribune*, says: "As further proof that they bring the highest market prices, it is only necessary to say that we shipped last spring an equal number of Cornish and White Indian cockerels, averaging 6 pounds each, to the

### COBURN'S BARRED PLY-MOUTH ROCKS

and WHITE WYANDOTTES

Bred for utility and beauty combined. Young and old stock for sale that will give you good layers and table poultry. Circular free. F. A. P. Coburn, E-759 Stevens St., Lowell, Mass.

### White Wyandottes

98 EGGS PER HEAD from Nov. 1 to April 1. All stock carefully bred and selected. Fine vigorous Cockerels at \$1.50. A few very choice ones for \$2.50. All farm raised. GEO. W. CONABLE, Cortland, N. Y.

WHITE P. ROCKS and WHITE WYANDOTTES. Winners at the leading American shows. Great layers of brown eggs. Stock for sale at reasonable prices. H. A. NOURSE, Box 1607, Barre, Mass.

### SEND

for my catalog. I just won 4 firsts Rose Comb Brown and 3 firsts Single Comb Brown Leghorns; have won on all breeds mentioned. I can prove I have the greatest winners and layers in the world.

Barred and White Rocks, Big White Wyandottes, Black Minorcas, Bl. Langshans, Buff Leghorns, Pekin Ducks, Belgian Hares, Light Brahmas. EGGS, \$1.00 per 13.

W. W. KULP, Pottstown, Pa.

### Maple Farm Duck Yards

Our mammoth Pekin ducks stand unrivaled for size and symmetry. 2500 birds selected with care for breeding purposes. Order early. Eggs in season. My book "Natural and Artificial Duck Culture," free with each order.

Monarch Incubator still ahead.

Send for catalogues to JAMES RANKIN, South Easton, Mass.



It will keep your poultry strong and healthy. It will make young pullets lay early. Worth its



weight in gold for moulting hens, and prevents all diseases. Eggs are larger and more fertile. They succeed best in raising poultry for profit, who commence with little chicks; giving them twice a week an even teaspoonful of Sheridan's

Condition Powder mixed with each quart of food, gradually increasing the dose until full grown.

No Matter What Kind of Foods You Use!

SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER

Is needed with it to assure perfect assimilation of the food elements necessary to produce eggs. It is absolutely pure; Highly concentrated; Most economical, because such small doses; No other kind one-fourth as strong; In quantity it costs less than one-tenth cent a day per hen. Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers. Large cans are the most economical to buy.

If You Can't Get it near Home, send to us. Ask first.

We send postpaid one pack for 25 cts; five \$1.00. A two-pound can \$1.20; Six cans \$5.00, exp. paid. Sample copy "best poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.



Sprague Commission Company, Chicago, which sold for 75 cents each, or 12 1-2 cents per pound, while other springs were selling at 8 cents per pound—4 1-2 cents per pound extra, or 50 per cent. above market price.

Here's logic by Emory Banks, in *Practical Poultryman*: "Utility discards mongrelism," says Uncle Mike. It ought to discard crossbreds also, and, by the way, this is another reason why fanciers despise utility. I am a utility man to the backbone until it comes to crossbreds. Have we not got general purpose breeds enough, without resorting to crossbreds? I dare say the Brahma, the Wyandotte, the Plymouth Rock, and even the Minorca cannot be excelled by any crossbreds that any utility crank can scare up for general purposes, or even meat or eggs alone, if they are bred as they ought to be.

First and second-class poultry should never be packed together, for they will all be rated with the second-class, says *Farm and Home*. Do not pack hens and roosters together, turkey toms and turkey hens, thin stock and that well fattened, but put each kind by itself, and mark contents and grade on the outside of the box. Ship in packages weighing from 100 to 200 pounds. Before packing, line the inside of boxes with paper, and place clean paper between the layers, and several thicknesses on top. Pack tightly and full up to the top, so that they cannot shuffle about on the way and become bruised. It is best to ship the fowls to a reliable commission merchant, writing plainly on the outside of the box, its contents, weight, the name of the firm to whom it is sent, also name of shipper. This will insure safe delivery and prompt returns.

### Ducks and Ducklings.

*Notes by the Way—How They Scald Ducklings in Colorado—Mr. Pollard Reviews the Claims for Pekin Ducks.*

Abnormal liver kills many ducks annually.

The early hatched ducklings should be laying.

A neglected duck yard has the stench of a hog pen.

Pollard believes in scalding the duck feed in winter.

Don't let the breeding ducks get too fat this winter.

April, May and June are the best months for hatching breeders.

It is when the duck is not laying that she readily takes on fat.

Lack of grit, impure water, filthy quarters and sour feed cause liver troubles.

In the Pekin we have very nearly the perfect duck; the perfect hen is yet to come.

Now is a good time to begin adding meat scraps to the mash, if they have been omitted during the late summer and fall.

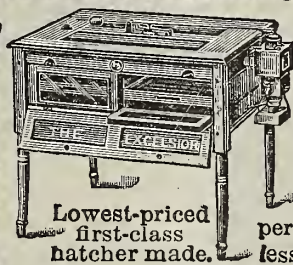
Mrs. A. M. Bush, of Colorado, in an article in the *Reliable Poultry Journal*, says in that section of the country market ducks are usually scalded before picking. One breeder says that

after beheading a fowl, he plunges it in a boiler of hot water, holding it in about two minutes. The feathers are thus loosened by the steam and come off easily, the water not having penetrated to the skin. Ducks at the ordinary age, picked in this manner, are usually as easily dressed as chickens. Geo. H. Pollard, in an instructive article in the *Reliable Poultry Journal*, says: "How many eggs a duck will lay is an open question. Some of the most prominent breeders claim as high as 140 to 165 eggs from each duck in a season; and they also claim that with fair success one should raise 100 young from each breeding duck. Our record is not complete, and we know of none that is where there is a large flock. We believe, however, that the average total egg yield will prove to be nearer 100 eggs per year, than the higher numbers mentioned. As to the total number of young raised from the eggs laid by each duck, we dislike to hazard an estimate. We may say, however, that we would not place it higher than 25 on an average from large flocks. These figures may occasionally be exceeded by small flocks, and, perhaps, in an exceptionally favorable season, by a large flock, but we believe it is as liberal an estimate as can safely be figured at the present stage of duck culture."



### MAKE HENS LAY

They can't be profitable unless they do. They can't help laying if fed on Green Cut Bone and Granite Crystal Grit. They double the eggs. **Mann's New Bone Cutters** cut bone in the fastest, cheapest and easiest way. Mann's Clover Cutter and Swinging Feed Tray pay for themselves quickly. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue **FREE**. F. W. MANN CO., Box 67, Milford, Mass.



Lowest-priced first-class hatcher made.

## Hatch Chickens by Steam

with the simple, perfect, self-regulating

## EXCELSIOR Incubator

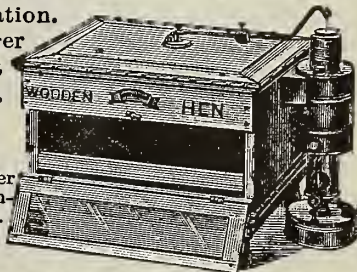
Thousands in successful operation.

Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other hatcher.

### The WOODEN HEN

the most efficient incubator for raising poultry on a small scale ever invented. A perfect hatcher—automatic, self-regulating, thoroughly constructed, fully guaranteed. 50 egg capacity. Catalogs free.

GEO. H. STAHL, Patentee and Sole Manufacturer 114-122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.



## EVANS VEGETABLE AND ROOT CUTTERS

Hens consume large quantities of grass and other green food when they can get it. They can't get it in the winter when every green thing is frozen up. Our Vegetable and Root Cutter supplies these deficiencies. It cuts all kinds of roots and vegetables—beets, carrots, turnips, cabbage, potatoes, etc., into fine pieces like angle worms. All fowls, big and little, eat them easily and greedily and thrive upon them. They double the egg crop and make hens lay in the middle of winter when eggs are worth the most money. Feeding roots thus prepared saves 50% of the grain feed. They turn easy, cut fast and last indefinitely. One will pay for itself quickly in the increase of eggs it will produce. Made in four sizes. Price, \$1. and up. Leading poultrymen and editors endorse it. Circulars free.

EVANS MANUFACTURING CO. Dept. R, Ypsilanti, Mich

### Our Brevity Symposium.

*Opinions on the Cheapest and Best Roofing—Henry Nicolai Gives Figures on Cost, Etc., in Laying a Shingle Roof—C. E. Howell Says Shingle Roofs Should be Ceiled Inside—Geo. G. Harley Tells How to Properly Lay Neponset Roofing—J. E. Stevenson Gives a Novel Roofing Made Out of Burlap—Pointers of Value to Those Who Contemplate Building.*

What do you consider is the cheapest and best roofing for a hen house?

#### SHINGLES.

Shingles.—Geo. W. Pressey, Hammon-ton, N. J.

We use shingles exclusively.—E. T. Perkins, Saco, Maine.

Have never used anything but shingles, except to try some paper roofing this fall.—W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y.

**BEAUTIFUL COCHIN BANTAMS**, Buff or White, at \$2.00 per pair. WM. M. CONNERS, Box A, Weston, Somerset County, New Jersey.

### A HUNDRED PER CENT

of the fertile eggs, is not an unusual hatch for the **MONITOR INCUBATOR**. Proof of this and many other things of unquestioned value to the poultry man will be found in our 80 page catalogue. Sent for 4 cents in stamps. Address, THE MONITOR CO., Box 10, Moodus, Conn.

## "Best Liver Pill Made." Parsons' Pills

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.



I have no experience with any kind of roofing except shingles, having used nothing else on my buildings.—*Aug. D. Arnold*, Dillsburg, Pa.

My experience has taught me that shingles are the cheapest and best in the end. They will last many years longer by giving the roof a coat of paint costing about \$1 per gallon, and using No. 3, 18-inch cedar shingles. One thousand shingles will cover about 145 square feet; one gallon of paint will cover 250 square feet. No. 3 shingles are worth \$2.50 per 1000 here.—*Henry Nicolai*, Hammonton, N. J.

I consider shingles the *best* roofing, but do not use them unless the house can be ceiled overhead with matched lumber. This makes a warm, dry covering, and shuts off the overhead draughts. The *cheapest* roof I have is building paper well coated with tar and gravel, but it needs renewal of the tar quite often.—*C. E. Howell*, Elmira, N. Y.

My experience with roofing is that either cedar or cypress shingles is the best for either a brooding or a poultry house. The Red Rope Neponset paper, however, is a very good substitute if it is put on right. It should have one-third lap and painted before the strips are put on. I use 7-8 half-round strips, and place them two feet apart on top of the Neponset after it is painted. If the strips are put on before painting, the paper will rot under the strips. But I prefer shingles to any substitute.—*Geo. G. Harley*, Hammonton, N. J.

The best is probably cedar shingles, and they may be really the cheapest in the end. The cheapest and best for a cheap roof, that I have found after several years' experience with the different roofing felts, is ordinary burlap. Tack it on the roof smoothly, and coat well with coal tar and sand. This will be found much more satisfactory than the majority of felt roofs, as it does not crack nor blow off, and if kept well tarred and sanded will last for years. Old bags will answer the purpose providing they have no holes in them, or the holes are patched, though new burlap would be less work to put on smoothly, and can be bought cheaply.—*J. E. Stevenson*, Columbus, N. J.

The above is a somewhat difficult question to answer. I suppose that there are some kinds of roofing papers which are cheap and will last for some time, but I have never considered them. My houses are all shingled and are perfectly satisfactory. They are waterproof, and at the same time sufficiently open to allow all gases to escape. With the shingle roof I do not consider a roof ventilator necessary. Besides these qualities a good shingle roof will last for years, is cooler than almost any other roof in summer, and sufficiently tight in winter, as the shingles shrink in hot, dry weather, making the room open or porous, and swell in damp, cooler weather, making it tight. On the whole, I think it cannot be beaten.—*Ezra Cornell*, Ithaca, N. Y.

**BLACK LANGSHANS.** Early maturing, prolific laying stock. Cockerels \$2.00 to \$3.00 each, JOHN TUFTS, Rockport, Mass.

#### TAR OR BLACK ROOFING FELT.

The cheapest roof I have is the heaviest quality tar paper on rough boards, coated with a good, coal tar cement. *F. Bause*, New Berlin, Pa.

I have never used anything but ordinary black roofing felt. It has always answered satisfactorily, and I should use it again. When it gets worn I put a new lot right over the old.—*Wm. H. Child*, Glenside, Pa.

The best and cheapest roofing for a hen house is tar or roofing paper well painted with hot tar, and annually painted *late in autumn*. This makes the roof at its best when most needed. If the tar is applied in spring or summer, the sun will rapidly evaporate it and make the roof thin. With such a roof the roosting room only needs to be ceiled with matched lumber, leaving an air space, as one-inch boards covered with paper in zero weather makes the roof cold, and chills the whole house.—*W. Theo. Wittman*, Allentown, Pa.

I don't consider there is any good whatever in cheapness of any kind in the chicken or any other business. Cheapness in the start means unnecessary expense in the end. I built a brooder house on the cheap plan to start with. It proved a failure, and since then have built it all over. This is where the unnecessary expense comes in. If built right at first, there would have been no unnecessary expense of rebuilding. I first built my house with three-inch battens, three inches apart, with shingles on top for a roof. The consequence was, when the wind blew strong, there was no such thing as keeping up heat. A roof that will shed rain won't keep out wind unless properly built. It is just as essential to keep out wind in a brooder or chicken house as to keep out rain.

My house has a hip roof, and two years ago I put tarred paper on the north side and it kept out both wind and rain. My plan is: Put on good sheeting and cover with three-ply tarred roofing, and paint once or twice a year, and you will have the best roof in existence. With us the cost of 3-inch batten, per square is 75c., and good shingles \$2.50 per square. Cost of putting on shingles are about \$1 per square; total, \$4.25. Three-ply tarred paper, per square, costs \$1.50, good sheeting, \$1.50. Putting on sheeting paper and painting, \$1.00; total, \$4.00 per square.—*W. M. Rand*, Franklin, Ind.

Barred, White, Buff Plymouth Rocks. Large, strong, vigorous birds bred for utility and beauty. Cockerels from \$2 up; Pullets \$1.50 up. Satisfaction or your money back. EDWIN RIEDEL, Wilton Brook Farm, Easthampton, Mass.



**THE WINTER LAYER**

will need a stimulant when the weather gets cold and everything is covered with snow. The very best stimulant known for egg production is

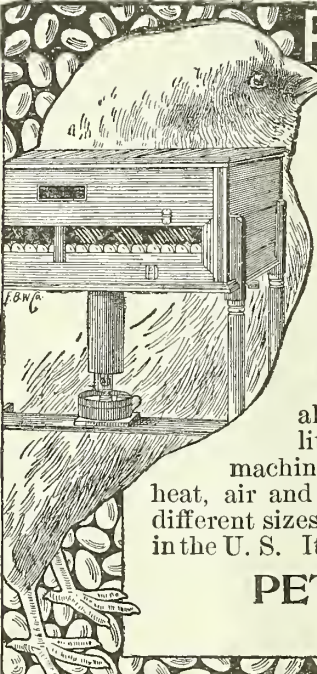
**Pioneer Clover Meal**

It is finely ground clover hay which has been carefully cured so as to preserve its natural green color and aroma. It is ground by our special made machinery and packed in new sacks. Prices, 50 lbs. \$1.00; 100 lbs. \$2.00; 5 lbs. 25c. Send for FREE sample book; endorsed by all leading poultry editors.

**THE BENNETT & MILLETT COMPANY,**  
Box 11, Gouverneur, N. Y.

### My S. C. White Leghorns

Lay large white eggs, and lots of them. First quality young stock for sale at very reasonable prices. Some fine Cockerels. Can spare a few good birds of Pekin Ducks, White Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes. High grade. Address, W. HAHMAN, P. O. Box 3, Altoona, Pa.



**PETALUMA INCUBATOR CO.**

NO LICE. NO DISEASE.  
NO SPOILED EGGS.

There is great profit in the poultry business if the losses can be reduced to a minimum. With the

**PETALUMA**  
**Incubator and Brooder**

all the fertile eggs will be hatched, and the loss of little chicks practically eliminated. It is a **hot air** machine—the **best in the world**—and the regulation of heat, air and moisture have been proven to be perfect. Made in different sizes, from 50 egg up. **We pay the freight anywhere in the U. S.** It will pay you to get **free catalogue** before you buy.

**PETALUMA INCUBATOR CO.**  
Box 256, PETALUMA, CAL.

## RABBITS

THE ONLY LOW-COST BOOK ON THE RABBIT ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to Select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, Secretary of the American Belgian Hare Club, and a man of long experience with Rabbits. Second edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved. Price 25 cts., or with AMERICAN POULTRY ADVOCATE one year 40 cts.

CLARENCE C. DEPUY, Publisher,  
314-320 East Onondaga St.,  
Syracuse, N. Y.



## NEPONSET.

I think the red Neponset is the best for a cheap roof.—*J. H. Seely*, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

I use mostly Neponset. It makes a good roof, and lasts about 20 years. Felt roofing I would use, but it costs too much trouble; always leaking. Tin is fine but costly.—*W. W. Kulp*, Pottstown, Pa.

## SWAN'S ROOFING.

I use nothing but Swan's Standard Roofing, and find it very satisfactory. Before building my house I visited many prominent poultry farms in Massachusetts and New York state, to pick up whatever points I could that would be of value, and this was one of the most valuable ones. I saw at James Rankin's farm roofing of this kind that had been in use for 12 or 13 years.—*C. E. White*, Fox Chase, Pa.

## SLATE.

I find that a slate roof gives the best satisfaction of all. It costs more at the start, but when once put on will last as long as the building stands. I know of slate roofs which have been on as long as 50 years, and are as good now as when first laid.—*Geo. H. Northup*, Raceville, N. Y.

## Pointers on Food and Feeding.

*Weight of Feed—Amount of Water Needed to Mix up the Mash—Buckwheat—Raw Vegetables and Green Cut Bone—Corn—Wise Remarks by Myra V. Norys—A Meat Diet—A Winter Ration—French Idea of Feeding.*

## Variety.

Corn for fat.  
Corn for heat.  
Corn for variety.  
Barley is fattening.  
Corn exclusively? Never.  
Buckwheat is very fattening.  
See that the food is eaten up clean.  
Green bone once a day is a mistake.  
One-grain diet produces indigestion.  
Scalded oats makes a good noon feed.  
Common sense feeding—are you doing it?  
Sweet potatoes, being sugary, are fattening.  
Buckwheat has a tendency to whitening the flesh.  
There is danger in mixing the grit in the mash.  
Do not confine the hens to one grain—give a variety.  
Too much boiled vegetables will cause bowel troubles.  
Never mind the cost of feed when there is a proportionate profit.  
Don't feed stuff that merely recommends itself for its cheapness.  
Stale bread, ground fine, makes a good addition to the morning mash.  
Sweet potatoes have a tendency to impart a yellow tinge to the flesh.  
Turn over the feed troughs at night so that they may be clean in the morning.  
Barley is rather hard to digest, hence should be fed only as an occasional food.  
Nitrogen is the principal substance that enters the composition of the albumen of the egg.

And now a prominent writer is trying to belittle the morning mash. Keep feeding it just the same, if you want eggs.

Hens not given grain in litter at noon will lounge around and do nothing until night. Such hens readily become over-fat.

During laying season the hens *must* be fed three times a day for profit—but the noon and night feeds should be scattered among litter.

The three grains that should go into the winter daily bill of fare are wheat, oats and corn—and their by-products, bran, middlings, ground oats and cornmeal.

Mr. Jacobs says meat or bone at 3 cents a pound is cheaper than any kind of grain. The bones supply the albumen, lime and grit, and also lessen the liability of making the hens too fat.

A ton of wheat contains 41 pounds of nitrogen; barley, 32 pounds; oats, 38 pounds; corn, 32 pounds; peas, 70 pounds; beans, 81 pounds; hay, 31 pounds; clover, 39 pounds; milk, 10 pounds; potatoes, 6 pounds.

Raw vegetables, ground in a root cutter, and mixed with the morning mash, is a favorite form adopted by W. E. Gowdy, a White Plymouth Rock breeder, of Hammonton. He prefers vegetables in a raw state to those cooked.

A correspondent in *American Agriculturist* says buckwheat is much fed by the French, who are quite successful turkey growers, and it is thought by them that this grain imparts to the flesh a delicious, nutty flavor much liked by their epicures.

Emory Banks, in *Practical Poultryman*, says one quart of water is sufficient to

mix up five quarts of kiln dried ground feed, if cold; if boiling, it will take 1 1-2 quarts. This will take considerable stirring to mix it thoroughly, but it will not be too dry.

Less capital is required, and a smaller area of land is necessary, for poultry than for cattle, while the profits are "all the year round" in the daily receipts of eggs, says *Poultry Keeper*. But to make such a business pay, the farmer must abandon the belief that a hen can subsist and give a profit on corn.

Our chief sources of protein, easy available, are wheat and its products, oats,

[Continued on page 91.]

**FOR SALE CHEAP.** 12 B. P. Rock Cockerels from trio bought of A. C. Hawkins and mated by him, from 75 cents to \$2.00 each. Also 5 Cornish Indian Game Cockerels from pen scoring 93 to 94 1-2, cheap. F. M. CHESBRO, Mongo, Ind.

A. G. Wilkinson, Clifford, Mich., breeder of W. F. Bl. Spanish poultry. Best known egg producers. Eggs for hatching, \$1 pr. 13. Birds \$1.50 each.



**DON'T PAY A CENT**  
for an incubator of any kind until you have given it a thorough trial. Some incubators were never intended to hatch chickens but are only made to sell. We send you this **VON GULIN INCUBATOR ON TRIAL.** After you have tested it to your satisfaction you pay for it. So easy to handle any child can run it. Took First Prize at World's Fair and Medal at Nashville and Omaha Expositions. We send the largest and most instructive catalogue published for 5 cents. Plans for Brooders and Poultry Houses, **25c.** **VON GULIN INCUBATOR CO.** No. 23 Adams Street Delaware City, Del.

## Poultry Supplies:

BOILED BEEF AND BONE,  
BOWKER'S ANIMAL MEAL,  
BRADLEY'S MEAT MEAL,  
BEEF SCRAPS,  
OYSTER SHELLS,  
MICA CRYSTAL GRIT,  
ORR'S CLEAR GRIT,  
DRINKING FOUNTAINS,  
CONKEY ROUP CURE,

FEED TRAYS,  
LEG BANDS,  
CHINA EGGS,  
BONE CUTTERS,  
SHELL MILLS,  
CLOVER CUTTERS,  
KILLING KNIVES,  
WIRE NETTING,  
CAPONIZING SETS,

INCUBATOR THERMOMETERS,  
SULPHUR CANDLES,  
EGG TESTERS,  
BOOKS ON DOGS, CHICKENS,  
RABBITS, CATS, PIGEONS, ETC.  
SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER,  
PRATT'S POULTRY FOOD,  
LEE'S LICE KILLER,  
GERMERZONE,

SAFETY AND PRIME EGG CASES,  
MEXICAN MUSTANG LINIMENT,  
P. D. Q. FLEA POWDER,

GREELEY ROUP AND CHOLERA CURE,  
LAMBERT'S DEATH TO LICE,  
JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT.

Sole Manufacturers **BANNER EGG FOOD and TONIC.** Small Sample Free.  
New York and Export Agents for the Prairie State Incubators and Brooders.

Our Immense Illustrated Catalogue Free. Mention A Few Hens.

**Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co.,**

W. V. RUSS, Proprietor.

28 Vesey St., New York City.



# A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,

PUBLISHERS.

## ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There is fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL.

**A Few Hens Makes Business.** Unsolicited testimonials are always the best. A FEW HENS does not ask its advertisers to tell of results unless they feel so inclined. However, when a man is "more than pleased," he generally lets you know. He is just as apt to give you a good testimonial as he is to kick if he don't get what he expected. That is our experience—and that is the experience of the average business man.

Here is an extract from a letter received from W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, Niagara Co., N. Y., proprietors of Niagara Farm. It is not an elaborate testimonial, not full of "taffy," but a straight *multum in parvo*:

"We are having a great run on 'cut clover, and more than three-quarters of our orders come 'through A FEW HENS.'"

Now, if Curtiss & Co. only advertised in A FEW HENS, that testimonial might not mean very much after all. But the fact is, they are advertising in *all* the leading poultry publications—and yet A FEW HENS gave them "more than three-fourths" of their business.

It might be argued that Curtiss & Co. do not have a very large clover business. Wrong again. They sell more cut clover hay than any concern in the country—have acres upon acres devoted to growing the crop—and cut up in an improved feed cutter *run by steam power*, and secured expressly for their business. Business men do not invest money in improved machinery so long as they can fill orders with a cheaper investment. Curtiss & Co. are business men—they advertised in A FEW HENS; it rapidly increased their business, so much so that the old hand power cutter no longer was able to keep up with the rush of orders—and that's why they purchased an improved cutter and put in steam fixtures. A FEW HENS certainly makes business.

A paper published in London, England, styled *Publicity*, published a rhyme that is certainly to the point. It is as follows:

"One step won't take you very far,  
You've got to keep on walking;  
One word won't tell folks what you are  
You've got to keep on talking.  
One inch won't make you very tall,  
You've got to keep on growing;  
One little 'ad' won't do it all,  
You've got to keep 'em going."

There are some who will put a small advertisement in a paper, and if they do not get immediate results they begin to think the paper is not of any value. It is an injustice to the paper:

"One little 'ad' won't do it all,  
You've got to keep 'em going."

"Destroy the Advertisement." Here is a case in point: C. C. Shorb, McDaniel, Md., in November A FEW HENS advertised Barred Plymouth Rock cock-

erels. Now there are a great many parties advertising Barred Plymouth Rocks, and Mr. Shorb used but a small space. The results were not satisfactory—that is, not as soon as he expected, so he sent a new advertisement for the December number. But before the December issue was printed this letter came to hand:

"You may destroy the advertisement mailed you on December 2d. 'After mailing the advertisement I received several inquiries, and 'thought it useless to change the 'same. I have inquiries from seven 'different states, and made sales to 'several parties, with prospects of 'more sales. The inquiries come 'from as far North as Connecticut; 'South, Alabama; West, Iowa; 'East, New Jersey. Your A FEW 'HENS covers the ground. Will 'send new advertisement for January."

**Quick Returns.** Dulany & Branin, the New York Commission Merchants, doing business at 41, 43 and 45 Hewitt avenue, furnish us with the daily market report, and their name was brought out in A FEW HENS for first time in our last issue, which appeared on the 15th of December. December 29th they write us as follows, which shows that our readers generally know what they want and do not hesitate to send in their orders early:

"We cannot too greatly commend 'your A FEW HENS as an advertising medium. We are getting consignments from shippers who mention your paper, and speak of it 'very favorably, and we have realized much benefit from A FEW 'HENS, even though our advertisement did not appear in the paper 'until the December issue."

**Sold all the Stock.** In our last issue we told of how Ford Bros., breeders of Buff Plymouth Rocks, Oak Hill, N. Y., were pleased with their results from advertising in A FEW HENS. Since then they write us:

"Our advertisement in A FEW 'HENS sold all of our surplus cock-'erels, pullets, and hens, leaving us 'only one choice cock for sale."

And they emphasize their testimonial by giving a six months' contract. That's business—cleared up all the stock he had for sale—and only a few lines advertisement.

The egg season is about at hand, and those who have goods to advertise should send in their favors at once. Advertise before the season really opens. Don't wait until the last moment, and then complain because our readers be-

came acquainted with those early in our journal and patronized them. Our readers are buyers. They want good goods and they are most apt to patronize those who have become more familiar to them. Come, join our family, and do business.

**High Editorial Endorsement.** Editor and Judge Atherton, of that welcome and interesting exchange,

*American Stock-Keeper*, Boston, pays A FEW HENS this high editorial endorsement, for which "our hat is off." It is very plain that Mr. Atherton is not so thin-skinned that he does not know a good thing when he sees it:

"Uncle Mike Boyer is taking the meat from the cocoanut, and serving it up in good shape in A FEW HENS. For good, practical 'chicken talk' he gives more for the money than anyone in the business."

**Our Many Friends** Are still profuse in their praise of A FEW HENS. They read the paper, study it, and believe in it. When confidence is secured success follows.

It may seem like vanity for us to repeat all these kind testimonials, and we admit they do make us feel proud. Who wouldn't rejoice at such a large circle of friends? A FEW HENS has a mission to perform. It is working in the interest of the thousands who are keeping poultry for profit. It is working hard. But hard work is always made easier when friends crowd around and compliment the labor. Read these high endorsements:

J. Harry Hewitt, Gouverneur, N. Y., writes: "Am more than pleased with A FEW HENS, and cannot get along without it."

Levi T. Passmore, West Chester, Pa., writes: "Allow me to congratulate you on account of A FEW HENS. I like it very much, and think it the cream of poultry matter. I am not a fancy chicken man, but think the best is none too good for utility and business."

L. C. Jaessing, Maumee, Ohio, writes: "I am delighted with A FEW HENS, and happy that I have every number filed."

Flora Staley, Plymouth, Indiana, writes: "A FEW HENS has been very helpful to me the past year."

F. A. Taber, of the Grand Ledge Poultry Club, Grand Ledge, Mich., writes: "Sample copy of your November issue of A FEW HENS received and very carefully looked over. I desire to say that it is my opinion that it contains more information to the square inch than any other poultry publication that I know of. I enclose 40 cents for two subscriptions."

Mrs. A. W. Sprague, Little Rock, Cal., writes: "I have decided, from all the information I have gained from A FEW HENS, that I simply cannot do without it."

Emory Banks, in *Practical Poultryman*, says: "A FEW HENS comes out with four more pages added to it—guess Uncle Mike thinks we want something for nothing, and he is bound to give it to us."

C. B. Crowell, Brattleboro, Vt., in renewing his subscription to A FEW HENS, says: "It is a great paper."



C. P. Jordan, New Haven, Conn., writes: "I take several poultry papers, but think A FEW HENS, for a busy man, 'takes the cake.'"

Ashley C. Stone, Ithaca, Mich., in enclosing a three-year subscription to A FEW HENS, writes: "We are at present taking your paper, and can safely say that, as a practical reference, it is without doubt the leader."

Rev. George Martin, Parkman, Ohio, writes: "Last year, or the year now closing, I have been receiving A FEW HENS, and like it very much. I prefer it to the much larger ones. It covers the whole field, and its boiled down character makes it the paper for busy people."

Geo. A. Kennedy, Shultzville, Pa., writes: "I take four poultry papers, but A FEW HENS is my favorite."

Mrs. Mary E. Powell, Bloomery, W. Va., writes: "A FEW HENS suits me. Think it is the paper for busy people."

James M. Pierce, one of the publishers of *Poultry Farmer*, Des Moines, Iowa, writes: "Your brief, pithy little paragraphs make A FEW HENS interesting."

Wm. H. Rudd, of the firm of W. H. Rudd, Son & Co., commission merchants, Boston, Mass., writes: "We trust that you will be highly successful with your new paper, A FEW HENS, and from what I have had time to glance over it, find it full of good, common sense ideas, which will probably be appreciated by its many readers."

Batty Bros., Lawrence, Mass., write: "We thought we had as many poultry papers as we could wade through, but we will have to drop some of the others and take A FEW HENS in place of them. In good, practical knowledge, it surpasses any of them."

D. Dick Brandt, Newville, Pa., writes: "Enclosed find renewal blank and a quarter for the best little poultry paper on earth."

E. L. S. Bouton, Vienna, Va., writes: "Of the half dozen or more poultry papers I am receiving, I get more good, sound, practical sense out of A FEW HENS than any other. Like the egg, it is 'all meat,' and is a necessary portion of the mental diet in successful poultry raising."

O. R. Swift, Bourne, Mass., writes: "A FEW HENS is the best poultry paper out of the five I take."

Death of John Jacobs. A FEW HENS is pained to announce the death of Mr. John Jacobs, father of P. H. Jacobs, editor *Poultry Keeper*, Hammonton, N. J. Mr. Jacobs has for a number of years been identified with practical poultry work, being a Brown Leghorn champion, as well as the first builder of the *Poultry Keeper* hot water incubator, which some years ago had a good sale, and was acknowledged to be the leading hatcher on the market. Mr. Jacobs enjoyed a large circle of friends, and no one will miss him more than the writer. A FEW HENS extends heartfelt sympathies to Editor Jacobs and family in their loss.

Still Better Story. In our December issue we gave an account of the work of Charles K. Nelson, of Hammonton, with a few hens—showing a profit of over \$10 per head.

In getting up that report, some of the figures were accidentally omitted or misplaced, and in our haste to get the copy ready for the printer we did not notice them, hence figured up just what we had in hand. A memorandum in Mr. Nelson's report, which he handed to us, said the feed cost *about* one dollar per head, and we having the eight hens in mind put down the eight dollars as the feed item.

This brought forth a number of letters from our readers, who asked if an error had not been committed. Mr. Nelson himself was one of the first to call our attention to it, claiming that we did not do the hens justice, so we had him bring his books to our office, and carefully we went over item after item, which we give farther on in this editorial.

We were more than interested in a letter received from J. Walter Smith, of Worcester, Mass., as follows:

"I was interested in the account in your December 15th issue of Mr. Nelson's success with eight hens and a cockerel, and wish you would induce him to give his method of feeding, as that seems to be his secret of success. I have been doing a little figuring, and below is the result:

Stock.	Estimated time kept.	Equivalent No. if kept 1 year.
69 broilers, sold	10 weeks	14
26 pullets, sold	6 months	10
10 cockerels, sold	6 months	5
82 pullets, reserved	7 months	62
4 cockerels, "	9 months	3
Total,		94

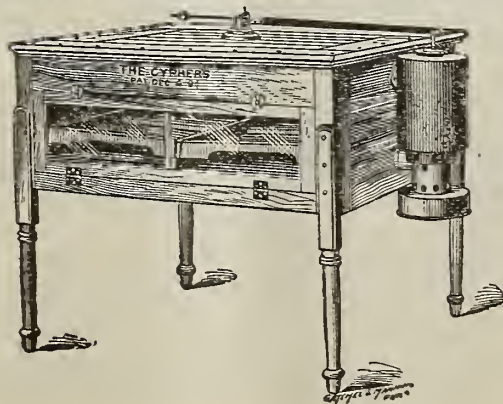
"Allowing two-fifths the rations consumed by an adult fowl, this was equivalent to feeding 38 fowls for a year, which, with the nine original stock, gives us 47 fowls kept one year for \$8, or about 17 cents each per year, or less than 1 1-2 cents per month.

"I heard recently of a man who reduced his grain bill by feeding half Indian meal and half sawdust, but while the fowls grew fat and laid well, on hatching the eggs he found some of the chickens had wooden legs, some wooden wings, and quite a number were block-heads. The prices Mr. Nelson received for his stock indicates that his chicks were not of this kind, so the system of feeding must be different."

Our best reply to Mr. Smith is Mr. Nelson's corrected account, as follows:

White Wyandottes or Buff Leghorns, bred for both practical and fancy points. Good breeding birds \$2 each, old or young. Also 12 years' experience breeding Wh., W. C. Black and B. L. Polish. Write. B. F. BRYANT, Box 19, Johnson Creek, N. Y.

## THE CYPHERS



# Hens lay eggs

when fed with the things  
eggs are made of. Eggs  
are principally albumen,  
produced by the hens from  
the protein they absorb  
from their food.

Bowker's Animal Meal gives  
the hen more protein and other egg-  
making material than any other  
similar food. Always sold in yellow  
bags and yellow packages.

For sale by dealers and by  
the manufacturers. Large pack-  
age 25 cts. Pamphlet free.

The  
**BOWKER**  
Company  
43 Chatham St., Boston.

## Heavy Laying

S. C. BROWN LEGHORNS  
and PEKIN DUCKS.

Farm-raised thoroughbred stock, bred for eggs  
only. \$1.50 per sitting; two sittings, \$2.50.  
F. CHRISTMAN, Sellersville, (Bucks Co.,) Pa.

G. & S. & B. W. I breed Golden  
and Buff Wyandottes. If you need any stock of above  
write wants. Lots of C.K's. All birds farm raised.  
Breeder since '84. F. S. Tenney, Peterboro, N. H.

REQUIRES  
**NO MOISTURE.**

GOES  
**FREIGHT PREPAID.**

Send 10 cents for our great cata-  
logue. Finest and most instructive  
ever issued.

**Cyphers Incubator Co.**  
Box 29, Wayland, N. Y.



## RECEIPTS.

69 broilers .....	\$36.86
20 young pullets.....	17.40
10 young cockerels.....	12.50
Eggs for hatching.....	15.45
Market eggs.....	9.36
82 pullets, reserved.....	82.00
4 cockerels, reserved.....	8.00

Total ..... \$181.57

## EXPENSE.

Feed for breeders, etc.....	\$60.00
Oil for incubator, etc.....	4.85

Total ..... \$64.85

Leaving a profit of \$116.72, or \$14.59 per head, for the eight original hens—and which Mr. Nelson still has to breed from another year.

In our last month's report we failed to credit the young stock these eight hens produced, and which Mr. Nelson will retain this year for breeders. It will also be noted that Mr. Nelson places a very low value on his pullets (and which at this writing laid as many as three dozen eggs in a day). One dollar per head for such pullets is a ridiculously low price. They are worth fully twice the amount, and they could not be purchased from Mr. Nelson for even \$2 per head.

Mr. Nelson is a born poultryman. He is fitted for the work in every way, and studies his fowls' natures, habits and tastes. He is just of that build which stimulates poultry work, and not of the complaining, and always-going-wrong class who never believe a good report simply because they are unable to do good work themselves.

\*\*\*

Stand up, Mr. Collingwood! In December A FEW HENS this item appeared, credited to H. W. Collingwood: "The hens of America last year packed inside the shells of the eggs, in round numbers, 650 tons of water. This is enough to fill a canal one mile long, 20 feet deep, and 300 feet wide."

T. E. Morris, Minneapolis, Minn., takes exceptions to this in the following extract from a letter sent to A FEW HENS:

"In a canal of the above dimensions, with the sides sloping 2 to 1, there are 23,654,400 cubic feet of water when it is full, and as water weighs 62,367 pounds per cubic foot, with the thermometer at 60 degrees, and the barometer at 30, that would be 737,627 tons, in round numbers."

Stand up, Mr. Collingwood! If the figures of our correspondent are correct, how did you get your result?

\*\*\*

Dr. Casey's Views. A FEW HENS recently wrote Dr. Casey, late editor of *Poultry Culture*, asking why his silence. Upon his retirement from the poultry editorial field, poultrymen, generally, missed much wise, common sense lore that was both interesting and instructive. We asked if his interest in poultry had died out with his severance from journalism. He replied as follows:

"No, though I have left *Poultry Culture*, my interest in poultry will never die. I am a regular crank on the subject, and love it with all my soul. If I could see my way clear, I would give up

the practice of medicine, get a small farm, and devote the rest of my life to my pets. I would study them in every way, for I believe the poultry industry, as a commercial and scientific business, is yet in its swaddling clothes. People with brains must take hold of it and develop it. I would like to be able to add my mite towards its upbuilding. I believe there is a scientific, systematic, methodical basis to it, which should be demonstrated practically until it takes its place with other practical sciences, and the country should thank A FEW HENS for what it has done and shown in this light."

\*\*\*

**Poultry Management for Profit.** At the Farmers' Institute, held in Ham-

monton, December 22d, Mrs. F. H. Valentine, Cranford, N. J., better known to the poultry world as "Myra V. Norys," delivered a valuable lecture on poultry management for profit. Mrs. Valentine is an acceptable writer and speaker on poultry matters, and her discourse was greatly enjoyed by the Hammonton poultry men and women. During the day Mrs. Valentine honored the A FEW HENS sanctum with a call, in which experiences were recited, and much poultry logic discussed. Mrs. Valentine's husband is one of the editors of *Rural New-Yorker*.

**BASSLER'S** strain of premium fowls are noted as big layers. A few choice B. P. Rock and Rose and S. C. Brown Leghorn Cockerels. Price to close out at once, \$2 to \$3. Address, W. E. Bassler, "Wayside Home" Poultry Yards, Middleburg, N. Y.

**Insurance and Incubators.** The *Rural New-Yorker*, in its December 24th issue, gives a symposium by insurance men on the risks taken on incubators. The vice-president of the Aetna Insurance Company says they refuse risks where incubators are run, as "they consider the continuous burning of an oil lamp, located in a cellar out of sight, close to wood or other combustible material, an increase of hazard." He says that "they sometimes insure incubators if located in a small detached building, not exposing barns or other buildings. They always insist that the oil to be never less than the United States standard of fire test, and that the lamps be filled when cold, and by daylight only, and never when near a fire or open light."

**BRD.** and W. P. Rocks and W. Wyan.; handsome brown eggs from first-class stock; not inbred; \$1 for 13, \$4 per 100. E. D. Barker, Westerly, R. I.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.**

Eggs, \$1 per 13. Wm. F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J.

**Heavy Laying Minorcas.**

Our Black Minorcas are mated and bred for heavy egg production. Eggs for hatching, \$1.50 per sitting. Stock for sale. Address, C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.



Black Minorcas (see cut), B. and W. Ply. Rocks, L. Brahmas, Bf. W. and Br. Leghorns, Bf. Cochins, B. Langshans, W. Wyandottes, Hondans, W. Polish, Pekin Ducks, at \$1 per set. All our fowls are bred for egg laying as well as fancy points. Good hatch guaranteed. Send for new illus. W. W. SHAMPANORE, catalog. Box G, Little Silver, N. J.



**KEEP YOUR HENS LAYING EGGS.**

THE NEW

**Successful Incubator**

will do the rest in a more convenient and profitable way. No long, tedious night watching with our machines. They are furnished with regulators that can be relied upon; lamps that are absolutely safe, and a drying room to receive the chicks after hatching. Send 6c. for catalogue and poultry book combined. It contains pointers that every poultryman should know.

**Des Moines Incubator Co. BOX 423 Des Moines, Ia.**

**They are Bred for Eggs and Meat!**

**LIGHT BRAHMAS.**  
**WHITE WYANDOTTES.**  
**S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS.**  
Eggs for Hatching only \$1.25 per sitting of 15.

We use none but strictly hardy, vigorous birds in our breeding pens, keeping as close to the Standard requirements as is consistent for good health and profits. Utility being our aim. Orders booked now. MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

**"Froze to Death"**

in that cold snap" has been the verdict on many a luckless brood of chicks. The fault was in the brooder. If they had been bred in

**The \$5.00 Champion Brooder**

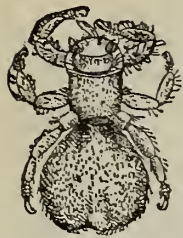
they would have come through all right.

*"The Champion Is Known by Its Work"*

and brings its brood successfully through, even in zero weather. Best authorities say it is perfect. Don't buy a brooder until you get our catalogue and endorsements.

**J. A. BENNETT & SONS, Box H. Gouverneur, N. Y.**





# RICE'S LICE PAINT

FOR POULTRY, LIVE STOCK AND HOUSE PLANTS.

Kills Lice, Mites, Fleas, Ticks and Bed Bugs. Easy to use—Certain to kill. Will destroy all the lice in your poultry house and on your fowls in one night, by simply spraying or painting the roosts, nest boxes, dropping boards and floor. Cannot injure the fowls. Cheapest Lice Destroyer on the market. **HALF GAL. CANS, each 50 CENTS; GALLON CANS, each 75 CENTS.**

Send for circulars and testimonials describing this wonderful Paint.

For sale by **JOSEPH BRECK & SONS**, Boston, Mass.; **HARVEY SEED CO.**, Buffalo, N. Y.; **C. C. RICE & CO.**, 178 Michigan Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The Glen Falls Insurance Company state that they charge 25 cents extra on each \$100 insurance for 3 years permission to use incubators. The hazard, in their opinion, is much greater than with ordinary kerosene lamps, because they are left alone and not carefully watched.

J. H. Washburn, vice-president of the Home Insurance Company, says the objection is that the incubator lamps are not under continued observation. They are liable to start a fire or explode while no one is near them to look after the damage.

Louis P. Bayard, of the Phoenix Insurance Company, says that the trouble is that the lamps burn all the time and are left unwatched.

The Continental Insurance Company says, "when the incubator lamp takes fire there is usually no one at hand and the fire gets beyond control before it is discovered."

While it is perfectly proper that insurance companies should protect their interests, at the same time it is unjust to discriminate against every incubator, and, especially, when they are in the hands of careful people. The insurance company should personally inspect the machines intended to be run; should test them; use the same logic and methods that would be employed in examining chimneys, or rather risks. It would not take much of an expert to see at a glance if there was any danger of the lamps becoming overheated, or of collected soot in the chimney catching fire and doing damage. How many cases of incubator rooms or cellars catching fire do we ever hear of? And many of these cellars and rooms are filled with from 20 to 50 incubators, and all running at the same time. As a rule, more care is taken with the incubator burners than with those used on the ordinary house lamp, and yet many of the latter are allowed to burn all night, and with only a little oil in them, with untrimmed wicks—and while the family are sound asleep—and no warning or injunction from the insurance people. There is no clause in the policy to compel the house lamp to contain only the highest test of oil, such as is used in the incubator lamps, and neither are the average house lamps supplied with such burners as will prevent their becoming overheated, and which are used on all the best incubators. Verily, the insurance companies need adjusting.

[Pointers on Food and Feeding.—Continued.]

fish, beans, peas, milk and curd, and the various beef scraps and animal meals, besides clover hay and grasses, says Myra V. Norys, in the *Feather*. Of these, clover, oats and wheat contain less than the others. It is because curd is about one-fifth protein that it forms so good a food for domestic poultry.

The *American Stock-Keeper* gives this valuable pointer: A meat diet, judiciously fed, will materially increase the egg supply. Nearly all breeders are aware of the value of animal food; but, though considered necessary, to make up for the insect food in summer, it should be fed sparingly, and not too often to the young fowls, for too much animal food is worse than none at all, and is one of the principal causes of the disastrous diseases of cholera, which we all know is very hard to successfully cure.

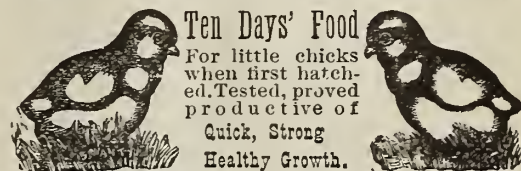
The late M. Barral, of France, laid down the rule that in every case the food given should be in proportion to the weight of the birds, taking into consideration their active nature and such accessory products as eggs and feathers. Generally speaking, an average hen will consume three ounces of grain per day, or over a bushel in the course of a year, but the weight of gallinaceous birds varies considerably, and hence no really definite idea can be formed of what they are capable of consuming to the best advantage.

Myra V. Norys, in the *Feather*, says food for growth requires to be rich in muscle makers. And as eggs are also rich in these same elements, which are technically known as proteins or proteids, food for growth and food for eggs will need to be reasonably alike. Let us fix firmly in our minds the fact that the only source of proteins (muscle makers—egg-makers) in the body, or its products, is proteins in the food. Then we shall not commit the blunder of expecting the hen to return to us that for which she has never received the material.

Beans are very unpalatable to hens; hence, although they are nearly one-fourth muscle makers, they are available only in a degree, because the hens will not eat them, except under compulsion, or through stratagem, says Myra V. Norys, in the *Feather*. The beans must either be cooked, or else ground and used in such quantity that more pleasing food will cover their flavor, and thus they will be made a part of the ration. It is fortunate that we do not need to use, or are prohibited from using, a very large quantity of a food so concentrated as beans.

Prof. Gilbert, of the Ottawa (Canada) Experiment Station, gives this winter ration: Bran, 3 pounds; fine feed, 3 pounds; cornmeal, 2 pounds; fed with clover hay steamed and cut, adding also a very small quantity of salt and two or three handfuls of coarse sand and fine oyster shells mixed. Sometimes boiled vegetables are used in place of the hay. At noon he gives a light feed of oats, and a good feed of wheat in the evening. The grain

## THE F. P. C. CHICK MANNA



Ten Days' Food

For little chicks when first hatched. Tested, proved productive of

Quick, Strong

Healthy Growth.

Highly Prized by POULTRY RAISERS.

Send for Descriptive Price Lists of the

F. P. C. PREPARATIONS—

FOR

Poultry, Horses, Cattle, etc.,

MANUFACTURED BY

F. P. CASSEL, Lansdale, Pa.

Sold in the east by Joseph Breck & Sons, Boston; Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co., New York City; Harvey Seed Co., Buffalo, New York; Johnson & Stokes, Philadelphia, Pa.

## ORR'S CLEAR GRIT STANDARD FOR QUALITY

**Aids Digestion and Prevents Disease.** Two sizes, fowls and chicks, 100 lbs, 75c; 500 lbs, \$3. Crushed oyster shells, two sizes—100 lbs, 75c; 500 lbs, \$3. Woodhid Farm cut clover hay—100 lbs, \$2; 50 lbs, \$1. Pioneer clover meal—100 lbs, \$2; 50 lbs, \$1; 5 lbs, 25c; Orr's chick meal—100 lbs, \$2.50; 50 lbs, \$1.50; 25 lbs, \$1. Orr's egg producer (a food)—100 lbs, \$1.50; 50 lbs, 80c. Cracked wheat (first quality)—100 lbs, \$2.25; 50 lbs, \$1.25. Beet scraps—100 lbs, \$3; 50 lbs, \$1.75. Charcoal—10c per lb. Bowker's animal meal—100 lbs, \$2.25; 50 lbs, \$1.25. Bradley's superior meat meal—100 lbs, \$2.25; 50 lbs, 1.25. Smith & Romaine's B. B. B.—100 lbs, \$2.25; 50 lbs, \$1.25. Cracked peas—100 lbs, \$3.00; 50 lbs, \$1.50. Poultry wire netting cheap; send for price. American Standard of Perfection, postpaid, \$1. Incubators, brooders, etc., at factory prices. White Wyandottes and White Indian Games—For the farmer, broilerman or fancier they are unexcelled. White Crested Black and Buff Laced Polish—The most beautiful of all the feathered race. Light and Dark Brahma Bantams—The king of all Bantams; imported stock; grand quality. Send for booklet and special ton rates.

D. LINCOLN ORR, ORR'S MILLS, N. Y.

Established 1855.

## BENNETT, RAND & CO.,

Commission Merchants,

POULTRY, GAME, BUTTER, EGGS, Etc.

Nos. 19 and 20 North Market Street, and 19 Clinton Street, BOSTON, MASS.

**THIS PICTURE** (from photo.) shows how Hartnest Strain Light Brahmas Lay, and How Thoroughly Eureka Nest Box Works.



"Number sixty-one" has laid 233 eggs to Nov. 3d, and has 71 days more to complete her laying year. Breeders, \$3.00 up; Trios, \$7.50 up; Pens, \$12 up.

Eureka Nest Box for personal use, \$3.00.

EASY TO BUILD.

## Hartnest Farm,

FRAMINGHAM, MASS.



ration is varied as much as possible. He keeps raw vegetables, including cabbages, carrots, and turnips, where the hens can peck at them any time.

### Diseases—Remedy and Prevention.

*Roup and Canker—Sores on Comb and Wattles—Sorehead—Gapes—Diarrhoea—Cholera—Loss of Voice—Colds.*

Avoid exposure.

Lice—don't forget them.

Sharp grit is a medicine.

No fowl can stand dampness.

Are you neglecting to disinfect?

Why are you sparing the whitewash?

Idleness is no disease, but it breeds it.

Eggs from sick hens are unfit for food.

Too much raw meat will produce worms.

Too much fat meat will derange the bowels.

Filth causes more sickness than anything else.

The healthy fowl is bright and busy the livelong day.

Who would ever go to the trouble to vaccinate a hen?

Clean the window panes—the winter sunshine is a tonic.

A one-grain quinine pill daily will break up an ordinary cold.

The art of prevention consists in warmth, exercise, appetite and room.

Don't blame the breed for the disease it may have. As a rule, the keeper is at fault.

A teaspoonful of flour of sulphur in a quart of water is recommended for gapes.

A variety of food—rightly proportioned—will prevent many cases of looseness of the bowels.

Ten drops of spirits of camphor to each pint of drinking water, is excellent in cases of diarrhoea.

Four great causes for sickness among poultry are filth, vermin, dampness, and improper feeding.

A fresh, raw egg beaten up with a little milk, is strengthening to a sick fowl, and useful in cases of diarrhoea.

A canopy built over the roost, and lowered at night, will prevent fowls catching cold while on the roost.

The chicken cholera scare generally begins about the middle of summer and lasts until the end of September.

Ten drops of sulphate of magnesia added to a pint of drinking water is said to be valuable in cases of constipation.

A French remedy for gapes is to mix garlic or onions freely in the food; or, mix powdered asafoetida and powdered gentian with it.

Henry L. Allen, in *National Stockman and Farmer*, gives these sovereign remedies for cold in fowls: Quinine, listerine, and peroxide of hydrogen.

When a fowl grows light it generally is the case of a wasting liver—but sometimes it is due to quarrelsome hens in the pen keeping the bird away from food. Look into the cause.

E. Tallman, in *Agricultural Epitome*, recommends carbolic acid and water, equal parts, for scabs and sores on combs and wattles, and in the eyes. He claims it will not hurt the eyes, and one or two applications will cure.

Mrs. Bettie Gay, in *Texas Farm and*

*Ranch*, says the best remedy she has found for roup is to put cream of tartar and sulphur in the drinking water. She uses boiling water to dissolve the cream of tartar, and then allows it to cool.

The *American Poultry Advocate* recommends this treatment for a cock who has lost his voice: Give daily a teaspoonful of glycerine on which has been sprinkled a little chloride of potash. If no better, then give a half teaspoonful of cod liver oil once a day.

Mary G. Patterson, in *Agricultural Epitome*, says two ounces each of red pepper, alum, sulphur and copperas, mixed in scalded cornmeal, is a sure cure for cholera. In several cases she allows one-third teaspoonful to each fowl daily, but in ordinary cases one tablespoonful in three pints of meal is sufficient.

A Georgia writer, in *Fancy Fowls*, says when the first symptoms of sorehead show themselves, wash the head with warm water, to which is added about a teaspoonful of permanganate potash to the gallon. After cleaning the head well, anoint with vaseline, to which 10 drops of carbolic acid is added to the ounce. For a tonic give two drachms of tincture of iron to a water bucketful of fresh water.

Here is a roup and canker cure recom-

mended by the *Canadian Poultry Review*: Five grains sugar of lead, 5 grains calomel, 3 grains sulphate of zinc, 1-2 grain morphine, 1 tablespoonful loaf sugar, 1-4 pint of soft water. Put all into a bottle, and as soon as the sugar dissolves it is ready for use. The above is an old, tried and true recipe for "eye water," but has been found a most excellent cure for roup in fowls, swelled eyes, and the worst cases of cankered tongues and throats are soon cured by it.

## SEED DUE BILL FREE

To get new customers to test my seeds I will mail my handsome catalogue for 1899, lithographed and beautifully illustrated, and a 10c. Due Bill, good for 10c. worth of seeds for trial, absolutely free. It is full of bargains. All the Best Seeds, Bulbs, Plants, Roses, new Fruits, Farm Seeds, Potatoes, etc., at lowest prices. Ten Great Novelties offered without names. I will pay \$50. FOR A NAME for each. Don't buy your stock until you see this new catalogue. Several varieties shown in colors. Great inducements for orders this year. You will be surprised at my bargain offers. Send your address on Postal to-day. Tell your friends to send too. Old customers will receive a copy. F. B. MILLS, Seedsman. Box 13. Rose Hill, N. Y.

**AFRICAN GEESE** (that are Africans) a specialty. The surest breeders of any of the large kinds. No exhibition stock now to spare. Good business birds for crossing for market production for sale. Put genuine African males with your large Toulouse and Embden females or African females with your Embden males, if you want lots of the most marketable goslings. Particulars free.

SAMUEL CUSHMAN, Pawtucket, R. I.

**POULTRY PAPER**, illus'd, 20 pages, 25 cts. per year. 4 months trial 10 cts. Sample Free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cts. Catalogue of poultry books free. *Poultry Advocate*, Syracuse, N. Y.



# SUCCESS WITH POULTRY

IF YOU DESIRE THE BEST RESULTS

from your poultry you must attend well to their wants and comforts. We sell everything calculated to improve conditions and increase profits in the poultry business.

**BONE CUTTERS**—Leading makes. Green cut bone doubles the eggs.

**CRUSHED OYSTER SHELL** and other grits—perfect digesters of the hardest foods.

**INCUBATORS**—We sell the famous Prairie State—the best Incubators and Brooders made.

**DRINKING FOUNTAINS**—keep the water clean and keep little chicks from drowning.

Ground Meat Meal, Bone, Beef Scraps, Feeding Pans, Poultry Netting, Condition Powders, &c.

**CUT CLOVER HAY** all ready for use. Takes the place of grass and green food in the dead of winter—when fowls most appreciate such food. **\$1.75 Per 100 Pound Sack.**

Illustrated Catalogue **SENT FREE.** **HARVEY SEED CO.** 35 Elliott Street, BUFFALO, N. Y.

# The Cheapest and Best

Four Poultry Papers and Two Books, for \$1.25.

FULL VALUE, \$3.00.

The best is always the cheapest in the end, even though the cost be more. But when a poultryman can get **four** of the best poultry papers for practical purposes, and **two** such books as offered below, for a trifle more than the cost of one of the papers, it is a chance no one should let go by.

On receipt of cash \$1.25, we will send to any single address, as follows:

FARM-POULTRY,	semi-monthly, one year,	price, - -	\$1.00.
POULTRY KEEPER, in colors,	monthly, one year,	price, - -	.50.
INTER-STATE POULTRYMAN,	monthly, one year,	price, - -	.50.
A FEW HENS,	monthly, one year,	price, - -	.25.
Book BROILERS FOR PROFIT,	by M. K. Boyer,	price, - -	.50.
Book A LIVING FROM POULTRY,	by M. K. Boyer,	price, - -	.25.
Total,		- - - - -	\$3.00.

The **four** papers one year and the **two** books, all post-paid, for \$1.25. Send all orders to us. The combination cannot be changed or filled as above, unless all ordered at one time.

A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.



## Notes in Passing.

*News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.*

The fierce old eagle on the flag has had her praises sung  
By poets and by orators since this fair land was young.  
A wicked, hard, old fighter he, but in our peaceful day,  
A weary, old back-number is the selfish bird of prey.  
Old Uncle Sam, from war's alarm, may now take long release;  
Beneath his vine he now has time to ply the art of peace.  
Your Uncle needs no fighting bird out in his peaceful pen,  
Far better let the eagle go, and raise the Business Hen.  
The eagle and the old war flags, with faded stripes and stars,  
May better serve as memories of battle-painted scars.  
Aye! Let them serve as memories—a heritage of fame  
That generations yet unborn may in all justice claim.  
But in these piping times of peace, the eagle off his perch  
May wisely stop; and when, with care, old Uncle Sam shall search  
A substitute; I nominate our friend, the Business Hen,  
A worthy type of energy and skill for all true men.  
Down with the eagle from the flag, down with his motto slay!  
Up, lively, with the Business Hen, and make that motto lay.  
Far better is the cackle when an honest egg is born  
Than that wild eagle's screaming when a human heart is torn.  
Yes, give the hen a roosting place above the starry flag.  
The Business Hen! Long may she wave! The country's pride and brag,  
And bred to patriotism, from her healthy eggs we'll hatch  
The spunk to keep our Yankee land still toeing to the scratch.  
—H. W. Collingwood, before New York Farmers' Club.

Buff Langshans are the latest!  
If possible, have a wind break in your poultry yard.  
"The love for bird and beast will raise to higher planes the life of him who fosters it," writes George Enty.  
A little knowledge is just as dangerous in the poultry business as any other occupation, says Judge Brown.  
The first successful element in profitable poultry keeping is the person himself, says the *Inter-State Poultryman*.  
A. C. Hawkins says for 23 years he has bred Barred Plymouth Rocks, and has yet to find a fowl with more desirable qualities.  
Breed for utility, eggs and meat, says *Inter-State Poultryman*. They are always in demand, and poultry pays better than anything else.  
Poultry raising gives quick returns on money invested, says *Poultry Item*.  
If rightly managed will give steady returns, and is a paying business.  
Editor Drevensedt wisely says a thoroughbred animal of any kind, and even grades and crosses that contain its blood, are superior to common stock.  
While much good can be accomplished in a hen house by a force pump, yet for whitewashing walls or buildings we think it a teetotal failure—unless one likes such tattooing work.  
George H. Pollard does not believe in "fairy tales." He says the poultry business will, when properly conducted, give a fair profit, steady work, and a good living for the average man.

"Look at the wonderful control the florist has over his plants. And I, too, want to be master in my poultry plant. And I know that said mastery means the profits," writes W. Theo. Wittman, in *Ohio Poultry Journal*.

The larger the flocks the greater the risks and necessity for close and careful business attention. It is on this account that the colony method is best where large numbers are to be kept, says the *Western Poultry Journal*.

As in other things, so in poultry, success is won by diligent painstaking, says H. P. Craig, in *Practical Farmer*. The cry, "It don't pay," comes from those who fail to do well their part. Poor stock, poor house, poor nests, poor coops, poor feed, poor care, mean poor results.

Method: How much is meant by that one word when applied to poultry keeping, writes C. D. Bates, in *Web-foot Planter*. The successful one uses good common sense methods; another, but little method; and still another, no method at all. Method is the "red tape" of the poultry business, and is just as essential as is "red tape" in a bank or railroad management.

There are breeds for various purposes, and one should decide what is desired of the fowl before stocking up, and, after having selected a breed, it is poor

policy to change to some other without giving the first a fair trial, says Maine *Farmer*. Changing from one breed to another, or adding breed after breed to the one originally selected, is sure to result in general dissatisfaction, and prove, eventually, a losing investment.

John Glasgow, in *Poultry Monthly*, in comparing the American with the English Light Brahmias, says the American birds are better foragers and layers, carrying more flesh of superior quality, being much more juicy, and as a fundamental cross for quick-growing chickens for broiler purposes has no equal. Moreover, they are about the most hardy of our domesticated poultry, and under proper care the very best of our winter layers when eggs are valuable.

**WILL SELL** Thompson's pure B. P. Rocks, cheap. Elm Grove Yards, Ansable Forks, N. Y.

**PRAIRIE STATE** 100-EGG Incubator. good as new. Last hatch 45 chicks from 50 eggs. Price, \$15. WALTER L. BELL, Jamaica, N. Y.

**White P. Rocks.** Jersey Beauties. Eggs per 13 (Hawkins), \$2.00; (Empire), \$1.00. REV. W. T. DORWOOD, Stelton, N. J. (Member A. W. P. R. Club).

## AMERICAN TRAP NEST BOX.

Very simple; easy to build; directions for building, \$1.00. By its use I have brought my strain of S. C. White Leghorns to lay 200 eggs per year, and win at New York and Boston. Stock for sale; circulars free.  
J. H. WOODHEAD,  
Pleasant Poultry Yards, Box 226, Leicester, Mass.

## Does 20 Hens' Work

The ordinary size Victor Incubator hatches as many chickens as 20 hens could hatch, and does it when hens can't be induced to set. A Victor Incubator is the greatest profit bringer that the poultryman or farmer can employ. It represents the highest step in artificial hatching. Being scientifically perfect in its operation—positively regulates itself—



### The Improved VICTOR Incubator

is moderately priced. It is most economical to buy and to operate, most profitable in the results it attains. A written guarantee goes with every Victor Incubator that it will do everything claimed for it—or money refunded. Catalog 6c., circular free  
GEO. ERTEL CO., Quincy, Ill., U. S. A. Established 1867.

## Most Practical Value

FOR THE MONEY.

Two Poultry Papers for only \$1.10.

FARM-POULTRY, semi-monthly, one year,	- - - -	\$1.00
A FEW HENS, monthly, one year,	- - - -	.25
Book, A LIVING FROM POULTRY,	by Boyer, - - -	.25
Book, PROFITABLE POULTRY FARMING,	by Boyer, - - -	.25
Book, BROILERS FOR PROFIT,	by Boyer, - - -	.50
Book, FARM-POULTRY DOCTOR,	by Sanborn, - - -	.50
All, if ordered separately,		\$2.75

IF ordered at one time, \$1.50.  
BOTH PAPERS ALONE ONE YEAR, \$1.10.

Or, the two papers and any two books, \$1.30. No other changes in the combination allowed.

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.



H. W. Collingwood pays this glowing tribute: "A hen is worthy of the best work of the fancier, the farmer or the business man. The money obtained for her products is widely distributed. It circulates everywhere; it cannot be cornered; it goes into every home, every farm, every town, every grocery store in the land. The hen is a chemist, a banker and a manufacturer. She holds the fort from the Klondike to Cape Horn, and she is rolling mortgages on her eggs and cackling a brave defiance when the wolf howls at the door."

Referring to the time of mating, John Doherty says: "Mating usually takes place in the months of March, April and May. If winter layers are desired, May 15th is the latest date for hatching. Incubation takes three weeks, and the hens require, say, 10 days additional to become accustomed to their new home; so that the pen should be made up some 32 days before the date of first intended hatch. If the hens have been running with cocks of other breeds, the additional 10 days mentioned with the new cock will insure the eggs being thoroughbred."

It is reported that an evening dress, made entirely of chicken skins, has been on exhibition recently in one of the fashionable establishments of Paris. This startling garment was made for Mme. Theo. Montbaude, a fashionable Parisienne. It was worn but once, at a grand ball, given by the Russian ambassador in Paris, but no other garment at that gorgeous affair aroused half so much admiration as the frock of chicken skin. To appreciate the beauty of the dress it must be known that not less than 800 pieces of tanned skin were used in the making of the skirt and bodice alone.

We have heard of using rosin in dressing poultry, but never tried the method. Geo. O. Brown, a well-known authority on poultry, says: To make a quick and thorough job of plucking fowls for market, dip them first in cold water, then with a perforated can, sprinkle powdered rosin all over the feathers, after which scald them in the usual way, and the whole coat, pin-feathers and all, will come off very easily in the mass, and the job is done. It does not in the least affect the appearance of the skin; rosin is cheap, and in preparing large numbers of fowls for market much valuable time is saved.

John Doherty, in an address before the New York Farmers' Club, in reference to the number of birds in a pen, said: "Each pen contains one cock, with as many hens as it is thought best to breed to him. Opinions differ greatly as to the best number of hens for each cock, some authorities advising as low as 2, and others as high as 25. In reality, all depends on the vigor of the cock. Inbred cocks have frequently so little vigor that they are unable to serve for more than 4 or 5 hens. A vigorous cock should have from 12 to 18 hens, and will throw better chickens with that number than with four or five."

"We have no man in connection with the poultry fancy," writes John Glasgow, in *Poultry Monthly*, "who is a greater advocate of keeping utility purposes to the front, in connection with poultry raising, than the President of the American Poultry Association, I. K. Felch. More power to his pen. Mr. Felch is one of the old school of poultry fanciers, and, although his views and my own are at variance on some points, we are as one as far as regards the importance of preserving and intensifying the utility points in our several breeds of fowls, in preference to mere craze after fancy feather points."

The secret in successful poultry raising consists in the fact that all fowls must be kept comfortable, says Wisconsin *Farmer*. A fowl drenched with rain is certainly not comfortable. A man caught in a rain storm can change his clothing and thus save catching a cold. But a fowl caught in a heavy rain must dry her clothing on her. Certainly it does not take a philosopher to determine what bad results will come from these constantly drenched fowls. After years of experience with poultry we have learned this fact: No fowl can stand a constant exposure to inclement weather, and the more we protect them the better will be the results.

**Poultry Farm for Sale.** 21 acres; 15 cleared. Buildings to hold 150 hens; incubator cellar; brooder house; fruit. Price, \$1900. Write. WINFIELD DARLING, So. Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

**POULTRY CUTS** at CUT PRICES. CATALOGUE FREE. Harper Eng. Co., Columbus, O.

Wh. Wyand., W. P. Rocks and R. I. Reds. Brown eggs from prolific winter layers at \$1.00 per 15. White Wyandotte eggs, \$4.00 per 100. C. A. SANBORN, 42 Fairmont St., Malden, Mass.

**Black and White Langshans** Best winter layers. Standard bred with strong utility qualities. 17 first and second prizes won this season. GEO. P. COFFIN, Freeport, Maine.

**BARRED ROCK EGGS** from yard headed by Cockerel from A. C. Hawkins. Hens are large, nice shape, well marked, and good layers. \$1.00 for 13. Also a few good Cockerels and Pullets for sale. A few settings of eggs from Prize Winning Indian Games, \$2.00 for 13. C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

## COCKERELS.

Norton Heavy Laying strains Wh. Wyandottes and B. P. Rocks, \$1.50 to \$4. Other strains. Write wants. C. A. DUNLAP, Falmouth, Maine.

## CLOSING OUT SALE.

To close out surplus stock of **Light Brahmas**, will sell yearling hens at \$1.50 each; pullets, \$1.00 each; Cockerels, \$1.50 each. Must be sold at once. These are good bargains. Address, MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammononton, N. J.

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, LT. WT. LT. BRAHMAS.** (Brown egg business strains). 250 Pullets for sale at \$1 to \$2 each. 50 fine Cockerels at \$2 and \$3 each. Incubator eggs from thoroughbred, year-old stock, \$5.00 per 100. E. D. PAGE, North Hermon, Me.

**POULTRY SUPPLIES**

Mica Crystal Grit, per 100 lbs. \$ .75  
Crushed Oyster Shells, per 100 lb. bag, .75  
Ground Bone, per 100 lb. bag, 2.00  
Lower prices for larger quantities. Ship us your  
**POULTRY AND EGGS.**  
SPRAGUE COMMISSION CO.,  
215 South Water St. Chicago, Ill.

This is the way the *California Poultry Tribune* tells of how the "hen fever" strikes big guns: "Grover Cleveland is going to get rid of his 'innocuous desuetude.' He recently bought incubators and is going right into poultry culture, Ex-President Hayes fashion, but on a larger scale. Another man that is down with the fever, is T. Havermeyer, one of the Havermeyer sugar kings. He is President of the New York Poultry and Pigeon Association. Still another is one of the Astors, who runs three large farms devoted to fancy and market poultry, on one of which he has geese and ducks. Here on the coast are the Sprekels Brothers who raise broilers for the 'Frisco folks.' The *Tribune* might have mentioned, too, Wm. K. Vanderbilt, who is a Plymouth Rock crank; and a score of other millionaires who have poultry plants, the same as were some time ago enjoyed by ex-Vice-President and Governor Morton; the late Cyrus T. Fields, of cable fame; Judge Hilton, and many others.

Buff Poultry Yards. Bargains in Buff Leghorns, Buff P. Rocks, Buff Wyandottes. Also first-class Houdans. Menzelbach Bros., 531 Wash. St., Williamsport, Pa.

**800** White Wyandottes, {Hawkins & Felch.  
Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Plenty of nicely marked birds, large, strong, well matured; price only one-half as much as we have paid prominent breeders for same quality. If stock is not absolutely satisfactory you can send it back at our expense and we will refund your money. MILES BROS., Spring Hill, Pa.

**Prize Winning Barred Plymouth Rocks**  
Clean sweep of 1st prizes at Amesbury, Mass.

**SCORED**  
95 1-2, 94 1-2, 94 1-2,  
94 1-2, 94 1-2, 94.

**First Cockerel, First Pullet, First Pen.**  
Cockerels full brothers to above, \$3 and \$5 each. F. E. COLBY, Bow Mills, N. H.

## Rhode Island Reds

are hardiest and lay largest deep tinted eggs of any birds of their size. Have deeper yellow skin and legs than any white fowl; are not angular, coarse boned and leggy when dressed and have no dark pin feathers. Have not yet been spoiled by being bred for feather by the extreme fancier and therefore

**JUST SUIT THE FARMER.**  
We have a choice lot of them and will sell eggs. Circulars of poultry and geese free. SAMUEL CUSHMAN, Pawtucket, R. I.

## WINTER EGGS

are as easily obtained as summer eggs if the food is turned into the proper channel. That's the secret of the great success of Lee's Tonic Powder. Mrs. J. J. Frank, of Cedaredge, Colo., says: "I cannot praise it enough for what it has done for my poultry. No more sick chickens and the egg basket well filled every day."

We send a 25c. box of Tonic and a 30c. can of Lee's Lice Killer, which kills all body lice, mites, etc., on poultry by simply painting on roosts, as samples for 30 cts. Our 68-page book on "Insects" and "Poultry" free.

Address nearest office.  
GEO. H. LEE CO., 1110 Farnam St., OMAHA, NEB.  
178 Michigan St., CHICAGO. 68 Murray St., NEW YORK.

## COMPLETE CATALOGUE

**Of BEST Eggs. Poultry That GROW.**  
Eighteen leading varieties of Poultry, Turkeys, Ducks and Guineas. Bred for both eggs and fancy points. Eggs for hatching, \$1.00 per 15; \$3.00 per 60. Stock for sale. Send for catalogue. JAMES M. SMITH, Box 60, Perkiomenville, Pa.



# A Few Hens Daily Market Report.

The Prices Given are Wholesale Quotations for Prime Stock—Goods Not up to the Standard Will Receive Proportionately Less.

## NEW YORK.

Furnished A Few Hens by Dulany & Branin,  
41 Hewitt Ave., New York City.

### Dressed Poultry and Eggs.

	Roasters.	Broilers.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Turkeys.	Eggs.
December 1	16	20	11 1-2	12 1-2	15	28
2	16	22	12	12	..	28
3	No change.					
5	16	24	12	10	16	28
6	16	22	10	11	16	28
7	15	22	11	..	15	27
8	15 1-2	20	12	..	..	28
9	16	20	11	11	15	28
10	16	20	12	..	..	28
12	15 1-2	20	10 1-2	10	16	28
13	15	20	11	11	15	28
14	No change.					
15	16	20	11	..	16	28
16	15	20	11	11	16	29
17	15 1-2	..	..	11	16	28
19	16	20	11	12	16	28
20	16	19	10 1-2	..	15	28
21	15	20	11	11	..	28
22	15	20	11	10	13	29
23	16	20	11	11	13	29
24	No change.					
27	16	23	12	12	16	30
28	16	22	10 1-2	10	14	29
29	15 1-2	22	10 1-2	10	..	29
30	15	22	11	..	15	29
31	16	22	11	..	16	29

## BOSTON.

Furnished A Few Hens by Bennett, Rand & Co., 20 North Market St., Boston, Mass.

### Eggs.

	Eastern.	Nearby and Cape.	Western.	Southern.	Refined.	Refined.
Dec. 8	35	28	26	..	18	16
9 and 10.	No change.					
12	35	28	26	..	18	16 1-2
13 to 22.	No change.					
22	35	28	26	..	19	16 1-2
23 to 27.	No change.					
27	30	27	26	..	19	16 1-2
28	No change.					
29	30	28	26	26	19 1-2	17
30	30	28	25	26	19 1-2	17
31	30	28	26	26	19 1-2	17

### Live Poultry.

	Fowls.	Roosters.	Spring Chickens.
December 8	10	5	9
9 and 10.	No change.		
12	9	5	8
13 to 31, inclusive.	No change.		

### Fresh Killed—Northern and Eastern.

	Turkeys.	Chickens.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Geese.
December 8	15	13	11	10	10
9	16	13	11	10	10
10 to 13.	No change.				
14	15	12	10	10	10
15	16	13	10	10	10
16	16	13	10	10	11
17	No change.				
19	16	13	10	11	12
20	15	13	10	11	12
21	15	12	10	11	11
22	14	13	10	11	12
23	13	13	10	11	12
24 to 28.	No change.				
29	..	12	10	11	12
30	..	14	10	11	12
31	No change.				

### Fresh Killed—Western Dry Packed.

	Turkeys Drawn.	Turkeys Undrawn.	Chickens.	Fowls.	Old Cocks.	Ducks.	Geese.
Dec. 8	13	12 1-2	11	10	9	8	8
9	14	13 1-2	11	10	9	8	9
10	No change.						
12	14	13 1-2	10	9	6	8	9
13	13 1-2	12 1-2	10	9	6	8	9
14	No change.						
15	13 1-2	12 1-2	10	8 1-2	6	9	9
16	13 1-2	12 1-2	10	8 1-2	6	9	10
17	No change.						
19	13 1-2	12 1-2	10	8 1-2	6	10	11
20	13	12	10	8 1-2	6	10	11
21	No change.						
22	12 1-2	11 1-2	10	8 1-2	6	9	11
23	12	11	10	8 1-2	6	9	11
24	No change.						
27	12	11	10	9	6	9	11
28	No change.						
29	11	10 1-2	10	8	6	9	10
30	11 1-2	10 1-2	10	8	5 1-2	8	9
31	No change.						

## PHILADELPHIA.

Furnished A Few Hens by Philip Quigley,  
303 South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa.

### Eggs and Live Poultry.

	Eggs.	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chickens.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.
December 1	25	6	6	6	8	8	9
2 and 3.	No change.						
5	25	6	6	6	8	9	9
6	26	6	6	6	8	9	9
7	26	6	6	6	8	9	9
8	No change.						
9	26	7 1-2	5	8	8	9	9
10	26	7	5	8	8	9	10
12	25	7	5	8	8	9	10
13	25	8	5	8	8	9	9
14	27	8	5	8	9	9	10
15 and 16.	No change.						
17	27	7	5	8	8	8	10
19	27	7	5	8	8	8	11
20	27	8	5	8	8	8	10
21	27	8	5	8	8	8	10
22	27	8	5	8	8	8	10
23	27	8	5	8	8	8	10
24	26	7	5	7	8	8	10
27	27	8	5	8	9	9	9
28	27	8	5	8	9	9	10
29 and 30.	No change.						
31	27	9	5	9	9	9	8

### Dressed Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chickens.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.
December 1	10	6	11	9	9	12
2	10	6	11	9	9	13
3	9	6	10	9	9	13
5 and 6.	No change.					
7	9	6	10	8	8	11
9	9	6	9	9	8	11
10	9	6	9	9	8	11
12	8	5	9	9	8	11
13	8	5	9	9	8	11
14	No change.					
15	8	5	9	9	8	12
16	8	5	9	9	8	13
17	8	5	9	9	8	14
19	8	5	9	9	8	13
20	8	5	9	9	9	11
21	8	5	8	9	9	13
22	9	5	10	10	10	13
23	7	5	8	8	9	11
24	7	5	8	10	8	10
27	8	5	8	8	9	11
28	8	5	8	8	9	12
29	8	5	9	9	9	12
30	8	5	9	10	9	12
31	8	5	9	8	8	12

## CHICAGO.

Furnished A Few Hens by Sprague Commission Co., 218 So. Water St., Chicago, Ill.

### Eggs.

	Fresh-laid.	Held-fresh.	Recandled.	Cold-storage.	Pickled.
December 1	23	22	23	16 1-2	14
2	22 1-2	21	23	16 1-2	14
3	22	20	23	16 1-2	14
5	22 1-2	21	23 1-2	16 1-2	14
6	22	20	23 1-2	16 1-2	14
7	No change.				
8	22	20	23 1-2	16 1-2	15
9	21 1-2	20	23	16 1-2	15
10	No change.				
12	21 1-2	20	23 1-2	16 1-2	15
13 to 22.	No change.				
22	22	21	23 1-2	16 1-2	15
23	22 1-2	21	23 1-2	17	15
24	No change.				
27	23	22	23 1-2	17 1-2	15
28	24	23	25	16	15
29	25	23	26	10	15
29	25	23	26	20	15
30	26	24	27	20	15
31	No change.				

### Live Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chickens.	Turk. Hens.	Gobblers.	Ducks.	Geese.
Dec. 1	6	4	6	6	..	6 1-2	5 50
2 to 8.	No change.						
8	6	4	6	7	..	6 1-2	5 50
9	6	4	6	8	..	6 1-2	5 50
10	6	4	6	8	6	6 1-2	5 50
12 to 15.	No change.						
15	6	4	6	8	6	6	5 50
16	No change.						
17	6	5 1-2	8	8	6	6	5 50
19 to 21.	No change.						
21	6	4	6	8	6	6	5 50
22	No change.						
23	6	4	6	7 1-2	6	6	5 50
24	No change.						
27	6 1-2	4	6 1-2	8	6	6	5 50
28	6 1-2	4	6 1-2	8	6	6	4 75
29	7	4	7	8	6	6	4 50
30	7	4	6 1-2	8	6	6	4 50
31	6 1-2	4	6 1-2	8	6	6	4 50

NOTE.—In Geese, the dozen price is given.

### Dressed Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chickens.	Turk. Hens.	Gobblers.	Young Turk.	Ducks.	Geese.
Dec. 1	7	5	7	9 1-2	8	9 1-2	7	8
2	6	5	6 1-2	9 1-2	8	9 1-2	7	8
3	6	5	6	9 1-2	8	9 1-2	7	8
5	No change.							
6	6	5	6 1-2	10	8	10	7	8
7	No change.							
8	6	5	6 1-2	10 1-2	8	10 1-2	7 1-2	8 1-2
9	6 1-2	5	7	11	8	11	7 1-2	8 1-2
10	6 1-2	5	7	11	8	11	7	8 1-2
12	6	5	6 1-2	11	8	11	7	8 1-2
13	6	5	6 1-2	11	8	11	7	8
14	6	5	6 1-2	11	8	11	7	7 1-2
15	6	5	6 1-2	10 1-2	8	10 1-2	7	6 1-2
16	6	5	6 1-2	10	8	10	6 1-2	6 1-2
17	6	5	6	10	8	10	6 1-2	6 1-2
19 to 23.	No change.							
23	6	5	6 1-2	10	8	10	6 1-2	6 1-2
24	6 1-2	5	6 1-2	10	8	10	6 1-2	6 1-2
27	6 1-2	5	7	10	8	10	7	6 1-2
28	6 1-2	5	7	10	8	10	7	7
29	No change.							
30	7	5	7	10 1-2	8	10 1-2	7	7
30	7	5	7	11	8	11	7	7

## NIACARA FARM

Offers to close, Light Brahmas, S. C. White Leghorns, Belgian Hares, \$1.00 each. Mammoth Pekin Ducks, White Holland Turkeys, White Indian Game C'h's, \$1.50 to \$3.00 each.

One Prairie State Sectional Brooder complete, \$13. Green Cut Clover \$1.25 per 100 lbs.; \$5.00 per 500 lbs. Editor Boyer uses our Clover.

In future shall only breed Mammoth Pekin Ducks and Pure White Wyandottes. Send for circular. Eggs \$1.00 per 13; \$3.00 per 50; \$5.00 per 100. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransom



## People We Know.

*Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.*

"Bassler's strain of premium fowls are noted as big layers"—see page 90.

Nothing on earth will make hens lay like Sheridan's Condition Powder.

The cover page of the Christmas *Inland Poultry* is elaborate, and shows good taste.

Prof. Samuel Cushman offers bargains in African geese in this issue of A FEW HENS.

Rice's Lice Paint, advertised on page 91, will destroy the insects faster than they can be bred.

The *Southern Poultry Journal* has removed to Dallas, Texas, where Editor McReynolds will be able to get out a better paper.

Score another for the *Reliable Poultry Journal* for a fine lithograph of a pair of Arthur Duston's White Wyandottes. It is an excellent production.

The H. K. Mulford Company, chemists, Philadelphia and Chicago, are introducing anti-toxin for the cure and prevention of roup and canker in fowls.

W. W. Shampamore, Little Silver, N. J., believes in heavy egg production, and his advertisement in this issue will tell you of the breeds he keeps.

GEO. H. LEE CO., Omaha:—"Enclosed find \$1.00 for five more boxes of Lee's Tonic Powder. Hens that were laying 7 and 8 eggs per day are laying 17 eggs per day after two feeds of Tonic Powder."

WALTER MILLER, Ewing, Neb., Dec. 30, '98.

GEO. H. LEE CO., Omaha:—"As many as a dozen persons have told me they would take it as soon as ever I got it. I would not be afraid to invest \$50.00 in the Lee's Lice Killer alone, for once used, no one would be without it in the poultry house. The Tonic Powder I know also is equally good for producing eggs."

Miss SUSIE MARSH, Armour, S. D., Dec., 30, '98.

With the breeding of high-class Black and White Langshans, the name of Geo. P. Coffin, Freeport, Maine, has been closely identified for a number of years. Besides winning many prizes with his birds, he has aimed for utility as well, and in a recent exhibition carried off the honors on dressed poultry and brown eggs. Such stock meets a popular demand, and his customers are found in nearly every state in the Union, besides several foreign countries.

**WILL Exchange a Mann Bone Cutter,** almost new, for Leghorns, young stock. Fancy pigeons for sale. SMITH, printer, Johnstown, N. Y.

**S. L. WYANDOTTES** imported direct from J. R. Hamilton, Eng. 20 pullets averaged 239 eggs in '97. Cockerels for sale. J. W. Forrest, Adams, Mass.

**WE BREED BUFF PLY. ROCKS only.** Orders booked now for eggs at \$1.50 per 13; \$2.50 per 26. FORD BROS., Oak Hill, N. Y.

**ROSE and SINGLE COMB BLACK MINORCAS,** choice farm raised cockerels, \$2 and \$3 each; also a few choice White Wyandotte cockerels, hens and pullets, \$1.25 to \$2.00 each; eggs in season; circulars free. GEO. A. HURLBERT, Cuyler, N. Y.

**EGGS.** sell a few settings from two grand pens. Large, vigorous, healthy females mated to Standard-weight males, \$2.00 per setting; three settings, \$5.00. H. COTTERILL, Westfield, N. J.

**FOR SALE.** A few choice Buff Rock and Leghorn Cockerels, cheap. Pleasant Poultry Yards, Marysville, Pa.

**M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING**

is made of the best No. 19 galvanized steel wire, strengthened by a cable selvage and a cable every foot 4 the height of the fence.

**A FENCE, NOT A NETTING.**

Its multitude of horizontal wires gives it strength, makes it easy to erect, keeps it in good shape.

**50 PER CENT SAVING TO THE USER.**

It requires but a few posts and no top or bottom rail. Only genuine when every roll contains the famous M. M. S. Trade Mark. Descriptive matter FREE.

**DE KALB FENCE CO.,**  
326 High Street, DeKalb, Illinois.

Patented July 21, 1896, and July 6, 1897.

**Rhode Island Red and Wh. Wyan. cockerels;** vigorous birds, \$2. Geo. V. Millett, Ipswich, Mass.

## Northup's Minorcas

**NORTHUP'S** 1898 Minoreca Catalogue, the most complete ever published in descriptions, prices, 1000 winnings, new pictures of buildings and fowls, contains much information fully indexed under 60 headings. Rose and Single Comb cocks, hens, cockerels and pullets at bargains. GEORGE H. NORTHUP, Box 15, Raceville, N. Y.

**I. K. FELCH & SON,**  
Box K, Natick, Mass.

**Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes,**

—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—  
Standard Points and Egg Records Combined.  
Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

**White Wyandotte Cockerels**  
\$1.00 to \$2.00 each.

Good breeding birds and O. K. I have just purchased the entire flock of several breeders of **White Crested Black Polish**, and offer a few birds that are not quite up to "snuff", very cheap. Have some good ones too.

D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

**Dulany & Branin,**  
(Successors to Haines & Branin,)

**Commission Merchants,**  
Philadelphia Poultry; Broilers, Roasters, Fancy Capons, Squabs and Eggs.  
Nos. 41, 43 and 45 Hewitt Avenue,  
West Washington Market, NEW YORK CITY.

## FOR SALE.

80 ft. Bramhall, Deane improved Hot Water System, complete, cost \$73.00; will sell for \$40.00. Used two seasons. Want to enlarge brooder house.

**Our Improved Pekin Ducks** are quick growers and great layers. They hustle after dollars. Good breeding stock now at \$1.50 each; will be double that soon. Hurry up.

**MARYBROOK RANCH,**  
J. MACFLICKINGER, Prop. Fannettsburg, Pa.

**POULTRY PRINTING.**  
500 Envelopes, \$1.00. 500 Note Heads, \$1.00.  
500 Cards, 1.00. 500 Shipping Tags, 1.00.  
500 1-page Circulars, 2.50. 500 2-page Circulars, 4.00.  
500 4-page Circulars, \$6.00.

Lawrence, Mass., Nov., 17, 1898.  
Note heads and envelopes received and am very much pleased with them. We don't see how you can really afford to do such work at so nominal a figure.

Summitville, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1898.  
The letter heads you printed for me are entirely satisfactory. It is the best job I ever had done.

F. W. BONDS.  
Bryan, Texas, Nov. 21, 1898.

I was highly pleased with the printing you did for me. There was certainly nothing cheap but the price.

Ed. S. DERDEN.  
Amesbury, Mass., Nov. 18, 1898.

The cards were received today. They were better than I expected for the money.

B. S. GALE.  
Carlisle, Neb., Nov. 22, 1898.

The work you do is beautiful and surely is first-class.

W. R. PETTY.  
The Fanciers' Review, Box 1, Chatham, N. Y.

**LANGSHANS**  
ARE GOOD LAYERS AND I HAVE  
GOOD ONES FOR SALE.

**BLACK AND WHITE.**  
Address, MRS. C. M. KELLY, Newark, N. Y.

**THE HATCHING HEN**  
HAS LOST HER OCCUPATION  
and in the production and brooding of chicks she has been supplanted by the better and every way  
**RELIABLE INCUBATORS and BROODERS.**

They Hatch and Brood when you are ready. They don't get lousy. They grow the strongest chicks and the most of them. It takes a 228-page book to tell about these machines and our Mammoth Reliable Poultry Farms. Plans for poultry houses, best way to handle, feed and market fowls, etc.

**RELIABLE INCB. AND BROODER CO. Box**  
Sent on receipt of 10 cents.

**BUSINESS FOR YOURSELF.** Will buy or sell moving picture machines, talking machines, cameras, etc. KAYS & CO., Youngsville, N. Y.

**Berwick Farm**—Buff Leghorns, Buff Wyan. Wh. Wyan., Ind. Games. Our strain have won prizes in England and America's greatest shows; prolific layers; egg order book now open. Norwich, N. Y.

**HAVE** bought the Buff Rock cock which won 1st Troy and 1st Saratoga Fair, '97, and 2d Troy, Dec., '98. He will head one of our breeding pens; see other ad. FORD BROS., Oak Hill, N. Y.

**Poultry Printing,** Circulars and sample leg band free. Get my prices on up-to-date printing. Peerless Leg Bands, Leg Bands stay on and stay bright. Egg Dater and Ink Pad, 50c. B. F. Huntington, Platteville, Wis.

**Over \$14 Per Head**

Actual profit on a pen of **White Wyandottes**, as explained in January A Few Hens. Eggs for hatching (from stock that averaged 180 eggs each the past year) \$1.50 per sitting. Address, C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

**EGGS FOR HATCHING** from standard White Wyandottes, extra large, \$2 per 15, \$6 per 100. To breed W. Wyandottes exclusively, will close out the following: 20 hens, 1 cock, Black Minorcas; 3 hens, 3 pullets, 1 cockerel, Light Brahmas; 7 pullets, 1 cockerel, Rhode Island Reds; all of leading breeders. Hunsberger Poultry Farm, South Hatfield, Pa.

**ANCONAS**

are among the best of egg producers. Cockerels \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00. Good birds.

OWOSCO POULTRY FARM, Box 36, Port Byron, N. Y.

**BLACK LANGSHANS, WHITE WYANDOTTES and BUFF LEGHORNS,** pullets, hens and cockerels, \$1 to \$2 per head; most of them now laying; they are hardy, standard bred, and great layers; some of them will score well in the nineties; orders booked for eggs at \$2 per 15; satisfaction guaranteed. Address, JOSEPH NOSS, New Castle, Pa.

**WHEN YOU HAVE ANY Poultry for Market**

Write for prices to  
**PHILIP QUIGLEY,**  
Produce Commission Merchant,  
No. 303 South Front Street, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**Make Hens Lay**  
When eggs are high. You can do it. This **Priceless Secret of Success** with Poultry is fully told in our **New Poultry Book.** It also contains a **Monthly Egg Record** and **Poultry Keepers Expense Account** for one year, by which profit and loss can be shown monthly (well printed on good heavy paper) worth 25 cts. It also explains Prof. Corbett's method "How to make \$500 yearly profit with 12 hens," for which he charges \$1. Also much additional information of great value to every poultry keeper. This book sent free, post-paid, as premium with our Paper (Gleanings) three months for 10 cents. Address, H. P. K., Wayside Pub'g Co., Clintonville, Conn.

**All for One Dollar!**  
Profitable Poultry Farming, retail, - 25 Cents.  
A Living From Poultry, " - 25 "  
Broilers for Profit, " - 50 "  
Farm-Poultry Doctor, " - 50 "  
A Few Hens, monthly, one year, - 25 "  
Total, \$1.75.

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,  
**MICHAEL K. BOYER,**  
Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.) New Jersey.